THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Trump wants to clean up Gaza, asks Egypt, Jordan to help with refugees

US President Donald Trump said that he would like to see Jordan, Egypt, and other Arab nations raise the number of refugees they are accepting. "You're talking about probably a million and a half people," Trump said, adding that the resettling "could be temporary or long term". He said he wants to move out enough people to "clean out" Gaza to create a virtual clean slate | P9

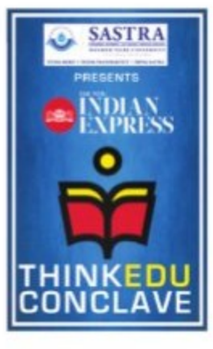
THINKEDU 2025

STAGE SET FOR CELEBRATION OF IDEAS IN CHENNAI

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

THE ThinkEdu Conclave is back. Over 40 esteemed panelists will lead thought-provoking discussions by sharing their insights into education, polity, economy, technology, history, art, and culture, during the two-day conclave, beginning today (January 27).

Themed 'Rise of the Indosphere', the 13th edition of the conclave, presented by Sastra University, promises to continue the celebration of Indian excellence. Attendees will gain invaluable insights from a diverse lineup of thought leaders, policymakers, and innovators. This includes Justice V Ramasubramanian, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC); Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor of Bihar; Priyank Kharge, Minister for Electronics, IT/BT and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Karnataka; and Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana.



Additionally, first-time Members of Parliament like Sasikanth Senthil (Tiruvallur constituency) and Angomcha Bimol Akoijam (Inner Manipur constituency), alongside seasoned veteran Parliamentarians such as Subramanian Swamy and Shashi Tharoor, will share their perspectives on India's political and social landscape.

The conclave also promises enriching discussions from thinkers like Sanjeev Sanyal, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India, and Mukunda CR, Joint General Secretary of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, to delve into contemporary issues.

Artificial intelligence (AI) takes centre stage with four sessions exploring its socio-political and economic implications, guided by academic and industry pioneers. Concurrently, eminent academics such as Prof Sudha Seshayyan, Prof Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar, and Prof Himanshu Rai will tackle topics ranging from accessibility in higher education to teaching Gen Z. P5

Culture, defence might top draws at R-Day

Emphasis on showcasing India's spiritual, cultural heritage; missile Pralay makes debut

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR & MAYANK SINGH @New Delhi

THE 76th Republic Day celebrations appeared to take a unique approach, with spiritual and cultural aspects displayed with the same vigour as economic and military might. The eclectic parade on Kartavya Path came alive shortly after the national flag was unfurled in the presence of President Droupadi Murmu. This was followed by a tableaux showcasing 45 dance forms from states.

From the Laxminarayan Temple in Karnataka to the Mahakumbh in UP, each state's tableau displayed a rich cultural tapestry. West Bengal's tribute to Durga Puja and Bihar's ode to Buddha monuments highlighted their spiritual significance. Andhra Pradesh's tableau focussed on Etikoppaka wooden toys of Lord Ganesh and others, signifying its rich tradition of crafts and sculpture. The Sangeet Natak Academy curated a 11-minute cultural performance titled "Jayati Jaya Mamah Bharatam" — a tribute to tribal icon Birsa Munda.

Folk artistes put up a performance as part of a cultural dance during 76th Republic Day parade in New Delhi on Sunday | SHEKHAR YADAV

India's defence capabilities were showcased with the debut of a new tactical missile Pralay and the army's battle surveillance system 'Sanjay'. In a first, a tri-services tableau depicted the nation's renewed focus on enhancing synergy among its armed forces.

The tableau displayed a battlefield scenario in land, water, and air with the indigenous Arjun battle tank and Tejas MKII fighter aircraft. The C-130J Super Hercules, C-295, C-17 Globemaster, Dornier, AN-32, Rafale, Jaguar and Su-30, took part in the flypast. President Murmu, Supreme Commander of armed forces, took the salute in a parade led by Lieutenant General Bhavnish Kumar, General Officer Commanding, Delhi Area. President Murmu was joined by Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, the chief guest. P7

K2H2 on menu at Prez dinner

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

INDONESIAN President Prabowo Subianto, who was the chief guest at the Republic Day parade, was at his humorous best when he declared his love for Indian film music during the state banquet hosted in his honour by President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday night.

Subianto said a few days ago he "had done his genetic sequencing test, the DNA test" and found that he was an "Indian," eliciting laughter from the dignitaries. "Everyone knows that I dance when I hear Indian music," he said.

Indonesia's love for Indian film music was on display when some members of the Indonesian delegation sang *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*, creating a memorable moment that seamlessly blended diplomacy with entertainment.

Cohesion is the key to living in peace: Bhagwat

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

DIVERSITY is natural and differences should be respected, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat said on Sunday. Addressing a gathering after unfurling the national flag at the Republic Day celebration at a college at Bhiwandi in Maharashtra's Thane district, Bhagwat emphasised the need to ensure equal opportunities for all to thrive in society.

"No one should be suppressed, and everyone should get an opportunity to grow. Cohesion is the key to living in harmony," he said. Bhagwat said diversity is India's strength and should be embraced. "Clashes are happening outside Bharat due to diversity. We see diversity as a natural part of life. You can have your own specialities, but you must be good to each other. If you want to live, it should be a cohesive living," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Noted cardiac surgeon Dr KM Cherian no more

Bengaluru: Dr KM Cherian, 82, a pioneer heart surgeon who performed the country's first coronary artery bypass, passed away in Bengaluru on Saturday P5

Mel-bourne supremacy: Sinner retains Oz Open

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE raised hands and a glance at the sky. It was more than just joy, it was divine but cathartic too for **Jannik Sinner** on Sunday. Just last year, Sinner was caught in one of sports' worst nightmare — doping. Traces of steroids, twice in a period of 10 days, were found in his body in March last year and even though he avoided suspension, he was facing severe heat from many quarters. The World No 1 gathered the pieces of tennis and life and has gone about doing what he does best — play and win. The Australian Open was a stage where he looked absolutely unshakable. It culminated in a near-perfect tennis like an art of canvas. The results were a reflection of his dominance. The final was a battle between the sport's highest-ranked players as Sinner met Greece's Alexander Zverev (No 2). Sinner was locked in from the word go and clinched the contest 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3) in just under 3 hours. After a close tussle in the early period, Sinner broke Zverev in the eighth game before going on to complete the job. Sinner was superior in every metric — baseline points won, net points won, long rallies, forehand winners. Zverev was full of errors and that didn't help his cause.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 27.01.2025 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Uttarayana
Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Pausha • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Thrayodasi 7.23 pm
Nakshatra: Moola 8.04 am • Moon in Makara Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 12°C | MAX 30°C
FORECAST
Broken clouds

Sunrise 06.46 am
Sunset 06.18 pm
Moonrise 04.46 am
Moonset 04.15 pm

1 Students perform in the 'Navellaru Bharathiyaru' programme to showcase the hardships faced by freedom fighters during the Republic Day celebrations at Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw Parade Ground in Bengaluru on Sunday 2 Commandos of 'Garuda' force of the Centre for Counter-Terrorism, Internal Security Division, showcase how they rescue hostages from a hijacked bus 3 Students mesmerise the crowd with a colourful dance | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

K'taka falsified prediction that guarantees lead to fin crisis: Guv

'State committed to principles of Union, raised voice when tenets of federalism compromised'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot said on Sunday that the state falsified the pessimistic prediction that the guarantee schemes will result in a financial crisis and stunt the development of the state.

In his Republic Day speech after unfurling the Tricolour at Manekshaw Parade Grounds in Bengaluru, he said, "Karnataka is striving hard to strengthen the most important ideals of social and economic justice laid down in the Constitution. The increasing economic inequality in the country has resulted in setbacks to social and economic justice. Understanding the hardships faced by the people, the Karnataka government has introduced 'Five Guarantee Schemes' for the welfare of the people and has successfully implemented them attracting the attention of the country... Karnataka has earned the distinction of being one of the best developing states in the country, while simultaneously achieving economic growth and social justice equally."

Sharing details of the five guarantee schemes — Shakti, Anna Bhagya, Gruha Jyothi, Gruha Lakshmi and Yuva Nidhi, he said, "The government has managed the state finances well in 2024-25, while promoting the state's economic growth. By the end of December 2024, the state's revenue collection stood at Rs 1,81,908 crore, achieving a year-on-year growth of 13%. Karnataka ranks second in the country in terms of total GST revenue collected by states."

He underlined the need to reiterate faith in the Constitution as well as cooperative federalism and said, "The government of Karnataka is fully committed to upholding the practices of the principles of Union and has accordingly contributed to the development of the country as per the ideals of the Constitution. Karnataka has raised its voice whenever the tenets of federalism have been compromised."

He said, "The real strength of our Republic lies in unity in diversity, resilience of democratic institutions and unwavering commitment to the values enshrined in our Constitution. Dr BR Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution of India and under his leadership, every member of the Drafting Committee has made an unprecedented contribution to this country. Remembering him on this occasion of the 76th Republic Day, let us all work together and prepare ourselves to the service and improvement of the country."

Impressive parades, cultural programmes

Hundreds of students took part in the cultural programmes held as part of the Republic Day celebrations at Manekshaw Parade Grounds. The Republic Day parade witnessed the participation of contingents from the Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP), City Armed Reserve Force (CAR), Indian Army, Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force and others. Eleven school teams, two teams of specially-abled people, along with a dog squad also took part in the parade. While 'Navellaru Bharathiyaru' (We all are Indians) programme by the Karnataka Public School, Agara with a participation of 800 students, showcased the hardships faced by freedom fighters to get Independence, the 'Arive Ambedkar' (Ambedkar's Knowledge) by BBMP Composite PU College, Herohalli by a team of 650 children depicted the life and struggles of the father of Constitution Dr BR Ambedkar, his fight against the caste system and untouchability. There was a Khukri dance performance by the '4/8 Gorkha Rifles'.

A special attraction of the programme was the 'bus intervention demo' by the commandos of 'Garuda' force of the Centre for Counter-Terrorism, Internal Security Division, where teams showcased how they rescue hostages from a hijacked bus.

Closed portion of Kamaraj Road may open by July-end

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE pending portion of Kamaraj Road, from Cubbon Road towards MG Road (near Cauvery Arts and Crafts Junction), is set to open only by July-end. Though the original deadline was April 2024, it has been put off several times due to the delay in arrival of equipment from abroad and technical delays on the part of the BMRCL. Meanwhile, the 220-metre stretch opened last year (June 14) in the reverse direction has helped ease traffic considerably in this area and surrounding places, said the police.

The road was closed for the construction of MG Road underground Metro station that is on the Gottigere-Kalena Agrahara line (Pink Line). The MG Road Metro station will have an integration of the Pink Line with the Purple Line, bringing citizens from remote corners of the city to the Central Business District (CBD).

Anitha B Haddannavar, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic West, told TNIE, "The opening of traffic from MG Road towards Cubbon Road has caused a significant reduction in traffic on MG Road and near Anil Kumble Circle, which used to be congested. It was helpful in managing traffic during the recent New Year eve rush too."

Opening it both ways will further help relieve traffic congestion, she said and added that it might take six more months.

Equipment arrives

Multiple BMRCL officials said that the equipment awaited from European countries to carry out multiple works at the station suffered a delay in reaching the contractors of BMRCL. "They have just arrived and these equipment will be lowered 62 feet down in the ground by a vertical shaft to create crucial infrastructure at the underground station," said a senior Metro official.

These refer to tunnel ventilation systems, environment control systems (air conditioning), fire systems and traction systems. Another senior official said, "The new equipment has arrived. Work is set to begin. It will be done as quickly as possible."

The revised deadline for the Pink Line is December 2026.

RARE SIGHT

Smooth-coated otter sighted in Anekal lake

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

BIRDWATCHERS and conservationists were surprised to spot a smooth-coated otter swim out of Anekal Lake, on the outskirts of Bengaluru city on Sunday morning. The sighting left conservationists and forest officials amazed as the lake is not connected to any river.

Mohan Bhaskar and Sharma BC, wildlife photographers and birdwatchers, were on a routine bird watching session at Dodda Kere in Anekal, when they saw the otter. "We were photographing the birds when we saw the otter swim out of the lake at around 5.30am. It's a wonder how it came into the lake," he said.

The news immediately caught the attention of forest department officials who are now coming to the area to sight other otters to document it. "This is the first sighting in the lake in the past 20-30 years. Though there are otters in water bodies in the city outskirts, it is surprising in this lake as it is not connected to any water body. Dodda Kere lake is connected from Bengaluru with a pipe carrying treated water from Koramangala-Challaghatta Valley," officials said.

It is difficult to conclude if the otter came through a pipe, because of its size. Otters are part of the river eco-system and found in the Cauvery river basin, but sighting it in the lake in Anekal is new, said forest officials.

Traffic disruptions on ORR near Doddanekkundi

Traffic disruptions are anticipated on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) in Doddanekkundi, near Rainbow Hospital, under the jurisdiction of HAL and Mahadevapura traffic police stations. This is due to the launch of a 65-metre composite girder across the Salem Bridge (railway crossing) scheduled for Monday and Tuesday. The work will be carried out between 9 pm and 6 am on both days. During this period, traffic heading toward KR Puram will be blocked on a 200-metre stretch of the left side of the ORR (from Metro Pillar No. 434 to Pillar No. 435, Marathahalli side towards Tin Factory). To manage the flow of vehicles, the opposite side of the road will temporarily function as a two-way.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

Vehicles travelling from Marathahalli towards Tin Factory and Hebbal can take a left turn near Marathahalli Bridge and travel on HAL Airport Road and take a right turn at Suranjandas Road and reach NGEF Junction and take a right turn and travel towards Tin Factory and Hebbal.

Vehicles travelling from Tin Factory towards Marathahalli can take a left turn near KR Puram Railway Station and travel on ITPL Road and take a right turn near Hoodi Junction and travel towards Marathahalli via Kundalahalli.

EXPRESS READ

Raj Bhavan open to public today

Bengaluru: In celebration of the 76th Republic Day, Raj Bhavan will be open to the public today (Monday) from 6 pm to 7.30 pm. People who want to visit the Raj Bhavan must present any government-issued photo identification card and can enter through the main gate, free of charge. Visitors are not allowed to bring cameras, handbags, sharp objects, food items, plastic materials, or any other luggage. Parking facilities will not be available inside the premises of Raj Bhavan, a press release stated.

Over 3k witness 'planetary alignment' at JNP

Bengaluru: Over 3,000 people flocked to Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium (JNP) to enjoy a special sky observation show featuring the rare phenomenon of the 'Planetary Parade' on Saturday evening. Around 10 telescopes were set up to help visitors observe and understand the unique alignment of four of the six planets — Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. While these planets can be seen with the naked eye, the telescopes offered a closer look, revealing fascinating details about their features and behaviour. The show was organised on January 25 to take advantage of the optimal view of the planetary alignment, which is expected to peak around January 29. The best time to view the alignment is about 45 to 90 minutes after sunset. The four above mentioned planets will be visible to the naked eye shortly after the sunsets, while Uranus and Neptune will need a telescope to be seen clearly.

'We need holistic approach for traffic jams'

Bengaluru: India's architects have the expertise and global exposure required for large-scale urban planning, but lack of collaboration with policymakers is holding back efforts to create sustainable cities, said Mohan BR, Chairman of the Indian Institute of Architects – Karnataka Chapter (IIA-KC) said. Speaking at the second edition of Latitude 2025, a two-day global summit for architecture and design that concluded on Saturday, he stressed the need for government intervention to bridge this gap. Highlighting the disconnect between architectural education and policy implementation, Mohan called for integrating professional expertise into urban development plans. "We need holistic approach, not just temporary fixes to traffic congestion and infrastructure challenges," he said. Mueen Haris, vice chairman of IIA-KC, adding to the same, urged Indian urban planners to adopt global design trends.

Animal welfare lessons in schools soon

Bengaluru: After taking steps to set up its own animal rescue centres, BBMP animal husbandry wing is heading to schools across the city to create awareness on animal welfare from February. Animal Husbandry Department is already holding awareness programmes in public places like malls, playgrounds and parks on animal welfare and how to be compassionate with animals. It is now aiming to educate schoolchildren. "Our children are our future. While students are imparted many things in schools, there is not much education given to them about animals, how they behave, how to be compassionate with them, how should we behave so that we do not provoke the animals, etc. With an intention to create awareness among the school children, we will be visiting schools," said an official from BBMP's animal husbandry wing.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

27TH January: It's certainly a harmonious day. Today's Sun-Moon patterns have two meanings. The first is that we can expect rewards for all our past actions. The second is that, if plans do come unstuck then it's not because of the stars but because we took our eyes off the ball. Always remember that the small details truly do matter.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
This week's planetary emphasis will shift very much towards financial affairs, especially joint arrangements. Money will begin to be a conditioning factor even in romantic relationships, and just what you can and can't afford will be of primary importance.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
It's not what happens to you that matters as much as how you interpret it. What transpires now should go a long way towards restoring your confidence. Your faith in humanity, though, will suffer if you fall into the trap of imagining that someone close is some sort of saint.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The tables are about to turn! Other people have had their say, but the time has come for you to give them a piece of your mind. Now that Mercury is approaching Uranus, you can afford to loosen up and come out with some of your more unusual suggestions.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Both personally and professionally, today should be the perfect moment to pursue your ambitions with consistency and dedication. That does not mean, though, that you should allow yourself to be stuck in an unfulfilling rut. There's always room for improvement, now as much as ever.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Seldom will you have been quite so determined to further the dictates of your heart. Yet with so many planets lurking at the very bottom of your chart, you must realise that all is not sweetness and light. Neither should it be. In actual fact, you thrive on a challenge.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Colleagues, co-workers and business associates alike will have to listen to you. There is so much to be said for putting your proposals on the table now - and don't let fast-talking salesmen pull the wool over your eyes. I know the facts are difficult to pin down, but that doesn't mean that you shouldn't try.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Your ruling planet, Venus, is advising caution. Actually, you must realise that your emotional fantasy life is especially strong, and that it is therefore necessary to separate your image of other people from the reality. Otherwise you'll set yourself up for a major misunderstanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Magnetic Mars and mischievous Mercury are up to their usual games. All you can hope for is that the resulting dislocation between thought and action doesn't lead to a parting of the ways. If you and a partner agree to respect each other's opinions then all should be well.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
The Moon is in a sympathetic position, so no worries today, just as long as you keep up to date with a partner's changing mood. It is time to allow personal matters to take their course. You must realise, though, that what may seem like a setback now is destined to help you on to the right path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Matters related to your prestige, status and professional ambitions are still important, but it's no use making a frontal assault. Any attempt to further your interests must be based on the proposition that to other people need to be seduced rather than coerced.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You Aquarians are flavour of the week, not only as a result of Uranus' current movements, but also due to amazing planetary alignments just around the corner. Realise that whatever you do now may, therefore, have very long-term consequences. There's a pleasant surprise on the way.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
A brilliant relationship between Mercury and a number of other friendly planets is already inspiring you to make one or two outlandish suggestions. You are well within your rights to expect others to do as they are told, but you may also have to bribe them!

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

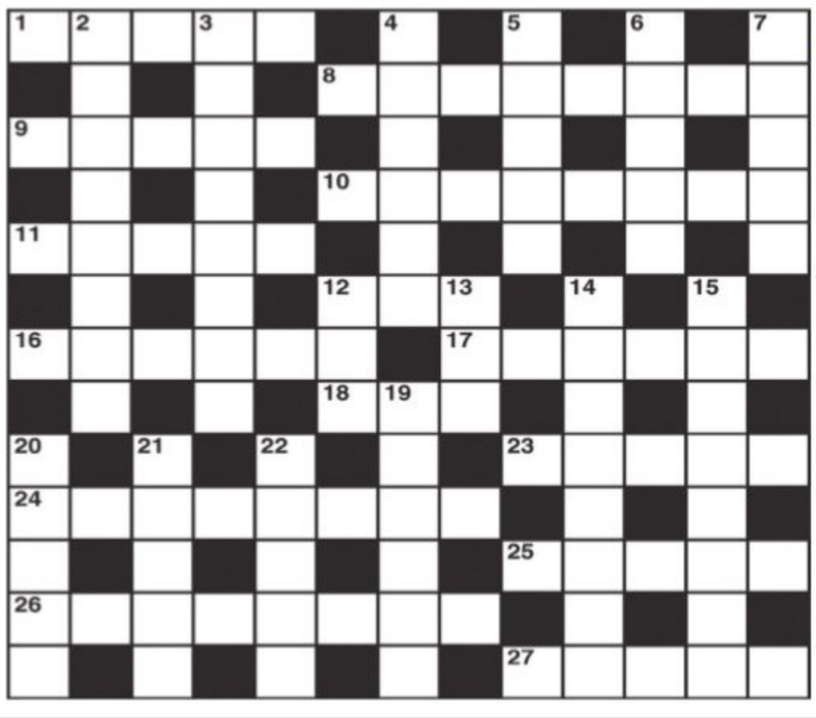
4					3	7		2
			4	1				
3		9				1		
		5		8	9			
	1			4			7	
			5	6		2		
		2				3		4
				2	8			
7		6	1					5

8	6	1	7	4	3	2	5	9
3	4	5	2	8	9	6	7	1
9	7	2	5	1	6	3	4	8
5	9	3	8	6	4	1	2	7
6	1	8	9	7	2	4	3	5
7	2	4	3	5	1	9	8	6
4	3	7	1	9	8	5	6	2
1	8	6	4	2	5	7	9	3
2	5	9	6	3	7	8	1	4

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Ideal start for daily paper (5)
8 Amount to be surveyed? (8)
9 Projectiles fired into a ship (5)
10 In such a state there's no need for alarm (8)
11 A highly profitable practice! (5)
12 Spoil Mary no end (3)
16 Paid companion shows his age when in trouble (6)
17 Sends away for instructions (6)
18 The current recession (3)
23 Handle cattle (5)
24 Recalled having rung again (8)
25 Start being involved (5)
26 Deceives with misdeals perhaps (8)
27 It may tremble seeing that writer (5)

DOWN
2 Hare she'd minced and cooked up again (8)
3 A star of literature (8)
4 Governess expected girl to stand up (6)
5 It's united but still may be joined (5)
6 He's wicked if up to some purpose (5)
7 How government works as a rule (2-3)
12 Mother East or West? (3)
13 Steal from a Cairo bank (3)
14 Possibly resisted one who arranges publication (8)
15 Custom legislation included in the cost of goods (8)
19 Joins in harmoniously (6)
20 The best years of one's life are very good (5)
21 Fit but writing up to a health resort (5)
22 Flyer welcome in British fleet (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Right ahead, 6 Calf, 10 Prior, 11 Punchball, 12 Veronica, 13 Piece, 15 Trowels, 17 Sea lane, 19 Take off, 21 No doubt, 22 Optic, 24 Remedial, 27 Anchovies, 28 Trial, 29 Yeti, 30 Dress sense.

Down: 1 Rope, 2 Guidebook, 3 Torso, 4 Hippies, 5 Anneals, 7 Aware, 8 False teeth, 9 Whip hand, 14 Stationary, 16 Eton crop, 18 Adulation, 20 Furrier, 21 Nemesis, 23 Tacit, 25 Dates, 26 Glee.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

IHFTA

LUPIT

TDAPUE

NWIWDO

The owner says that's too expensive.
Do you even use fresh fish anymore?
I'm not eating this! Let's get out of here!
THE FOOD AT THE RESTAURANT WAS GETTING WORSE AND WORSE. CUSTOMERS WERE ---
12/2
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PLUNK LIMIT STIGMA TRENCH
Answer: The barber designed his new website — USING CLIP ART

Mysuru City Police raided a hotel and rescued two women from a prostitution ring on Sunday. Saraswathipuram police raided a hotel near Bogadi and rescued two women, including a foreigner, and arrested Ratan, a former KSRTC staffer, and his accomplice, Revanna

MATTER OF PRIDE

Karnataka's tableau pays rich tribute to the Brahma Jinalaya temple in Gadag's Lakkundi during the 76th Republic Day parade, in New Delhi, on Sunday | PTI

HC ORDER IGNORED

14 sub-registrars logged out by Stamps & Registration Dept

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

FOR the past three weeks, a bizarre situation has unfolded across 10 sub-registrar offices in Bengaluru and one in Mangaluru. Fourteen sub-registrars from the Stamps and Registration Department report to work daily, only to sit the entire day idle before returning home. The reason -- despite a high court order cancelling their transfers and ordering their reinstatement, the department refuses to give them login access to their systems, leaving them without any work.

These officials continue to report to duty at their offices at Kengeri, Gandhi Nagar, Indiranagar, Banashankari, Srirampura, Byatarayanapura, Srirampura, Jigni, Devanahalli and Basavanagudi in Bengaluru, and one in Mangaluru.

Highly-placed department sources conceded that this situation has been going on for quite some time. "The affected sub-registrars also repeatedly visit the head office at Kandaya Bhavan requesting their reinstatement. There are two sub-registrars for each post now with just one of them working. However, public work has not been impacted as those transferred in their place from different districts are carrying out their duties," he said.

"Though the posts of those transferred from the district remain vacant as these 14 people have not joined their new places, clerical staff like the Second Division Assistant and First Division Assistant have taken over the duties of the sub-registrar in these districts," the sources explained.

Speaking on behalf of the impacted officers, a sub-registrar told *TNIE*, "The department is completely misinterpreting orders of the high court. Twenty four of us were transferred out of Bengaluru to different districts on December 10, 2024. While ten of us opted to move out and joined the new postings, 13 of us spread across different offices in the city and one in Mangaluru are unable to leave and shift suddenly as numerous arrangements need to be made for our families. We filed a petition in the high court and the court has issued an interim order staying our transfers."

The court on December 16 ordered those transferred out of Bengaluru be reinstated. "However, the department has not done so. Meanwhile, sub-registrars from other districts, including offices in Jewargi, Channarayapatna, Haveri and Srirangapatna, have been posted here and they have joined duty too. They are doing our work. We approached the HC again and on December 21 and 23 last year, it pulled up the Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, KA Dayananda, and told him he was indulging in contempt of court. On January 15, the HC asked him why we were denied login access and we be allowed to work. He sought two days to submit a report. It has been eight days and nothing has happened," he explained.

The Inspector General did not respond to multiple calls in this connection. The High Court, meanwhile, will have another hearing on Friday over the issue.

Fleeing Honnavar cow slaughter accused shot in leg by police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Honnavar

THE Honnavar police on Saturday arrested a suspect, Faisal (19), in connection with the incident in which a pregnant cow was brutally slaughtered a week ago. The accused was shot in the leg when he tried to escape from the police.

Following a tip-off, police intercepted Faisal and arrested him at Duggur Cross near Kasarkod in Honnavar taluk. However, when he was being led to the police station, he attacked Police Inspector Honnavar Siddarameshwar, Sub Inspector Rajashekar Vandali, Constables Gajanan Naik and Ganesh Badni, while trying to escape. All four policemen were injured. Police said they opened fire in defence and overpowered Faisal.

The accused admitted to a hospital after police fired at him in the leg

The accused was later taken to the government hospital. A resident of Tonka, he and his accomplices are said to have slaughtered the pregnant cow at Kondukuli village in Salkod Gram Panchayat in Honnavar. The cow belonged to a villager, Krishna Achari, and was grazing on the ill-fated day. It did not return in the evening and was found slaughtered the next day when Achari went in search of it. The miscreants had left behind the cow's severed head and legs on the spot and dumped the unborn calf.

According to the police, the accused and his accomplices then supplied the cow's meat for a wedding event.

Faisal was arrested on Saturday, while one of of his accomplices identified as Touseef, was arrested on January 24.

The police had constituted six teams to arrest the culprits, with each team headed by a senior officer. The probe was monitored by SP of Uttara Kannada district, M Narayana.

Kannada TV actor booked for blackmailing hubby

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AN FIR has been registered against Kannada TV actor **Shashikala** for allegedly mentally torturing, extorting and blackmailing her husband, Harshavardhan TJ, who is a producer. According to the FIR, the complainant, 35-year-old Harshavardhan, filed a complaint with the Vidyaranyapura police, stating that his wife and her friend, Arun Kumar, a YouTuber, began threatening him. The couple married in 2022, after they met during a film shoot the previous year. Shashikala, who already had a son, allegedly forced Harshavardhan into a live-in relationship on the pretext of getting him a chance for acting in films and later pressured him into marriage. When he initially refused, she filed a false rape complaint against him with the Annapoorneshwari Nagar police station. The matter was later settled in court, and they got married.

Harshavardhan claimed that Shashikala's behaviour changed in recent months. Directors and producers frequented their house, and when he questioned her, she allegedly threatened and warned him that if he did not keep quiet, she would share his morphed photos online to damage his career in the film industry. Arun Kumar also allegedly supported Shashikala and threatened Harshavardhan. He further alleged that his wife mentally tortured and physically harassed him, the FIR states.

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Dr Rajkumar Eye Bank collects 3.9k eyes post Puneeth's death

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

BENGALURU'S Narayana Nethralaya, which runs the Dr Rajkumar Eye Bank, recorded a surge in pledges after actor Puneeth Rajkumar's death. The eye bank, which had 75,000 pledges over 30 years, received about 1.3 lakh pledges in just four years. Moreover, the eye bank collected 3,989 eyes since Puneeth's death.

In October 2021 - the year when the actor passed away - the hospital had also introduced a dedicated number for people to register their names, which contributed to a 67% rise in eye donation pledges, officials said.

Though it has been over three years since the actor's demise, his decision to donate his eyes continues to inspire many. His donation not only restored sight to four individuals, but also sparked a surge in eye donation awareness and pledges. "People still call us, asking how to donate their eyes. We receive calls from across Karnataka, even from remote areas," said Veeresh, who works with the eye bank.

Minto Eye Hospital, affiliated with Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), has also seen a significant increase in eye donation pledges since October 2021.

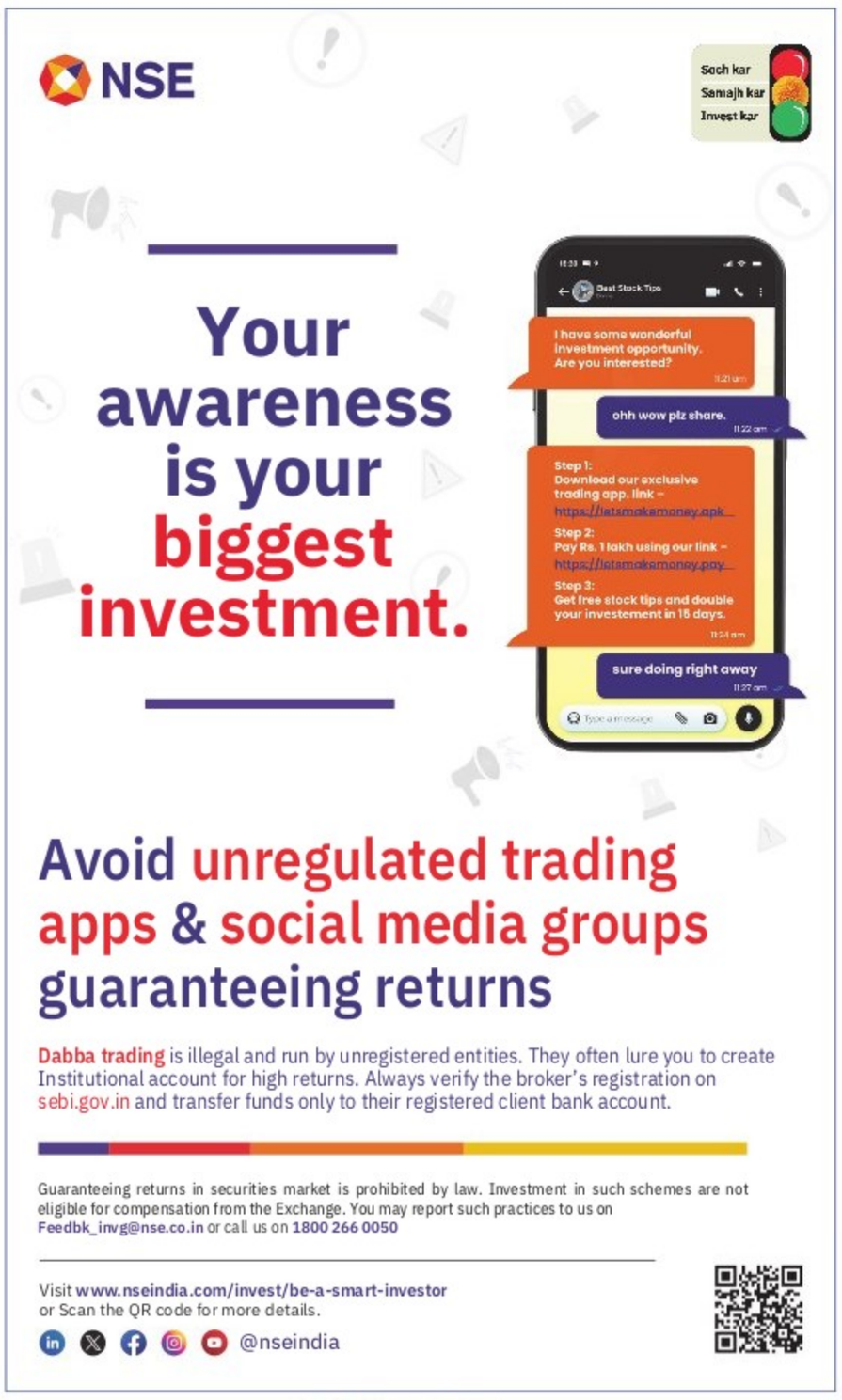
Proactive steps are necessary to maintain a steady number of eye donation pledges, with a goal of increasing them to 10 lakh annually across the state. This will create awareness to a much larger population, Veeresh added.

People who wish to pledge their eyes can register their names by calling 8884018800. Those looking to donate can reach out at 9741685555 (only for Narayana Nethralaya)

EXPRESS READ

BALLARI DOC ABDUCTED FOR RANSOM, RELEASED THE SAME DAY

BALLARI: In a dramatic turn of events that unfolded in Ballari on Saturday, a doctor was kidnapped by a gang of 4-5 men, who demanded Rs 2 crore in cash and Rs 4 crore worth gold biscuits as ransom for his release, but ended up releasing him on the same day. The victim, Dr Sunil P, is a paediatrician at the district hospital. On realising that the police had launched a manhunt for the kidnappers, the latter abandoned the doctor on a farm in Sumasandra of Kampili taluk on Saturday evening, and also gave him Rs 300 and told him to return home. Ballari SP Shobha Rani VJ said the kidnap case was solved within 14 hours. She said, after kidnapping Dr Sunil during his morning walk, the kidnappers made ransom calls to his family members. But the family members filed a case, following which a special police team was formed, which quickly launched a search and rescue operation.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Your awareness is your biggest investment.
I have some wonderful investment opportunity. Are you interested?
ohh wow plz share.
Step 1: Download our exclusive trading app. link –
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'CUT DELAYS, INDUSTRIES NEED SINGLE-WINDOW CLEARANCE, LICENCE AT DOORSTEP'

PIC: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

THE state government should focus on simplifying the licence issuing process, and ensure that there is ease of doing business in letter and spirit, urged **MG Balakrishna**, president of Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry. In an interaction with the editorial team of *TNIE*, he spoke on several issues -- the challenges industries are facing, encouragement for setting up of industries in rural areas, and others. Excerpts...

How are industries doing in Karnataka?
Industries are not doing great. The current government is focusing heavily on revenue, primarily due to the implementation of free guarantee schemes. To generate funds for these schemes, they are increasing license fees for industries. In Karnataka, multiple departments have independently raised their fee structures, impacting industries significantly. We are trying to explain to the state government that if they do not address these rising costs — like licence fees and other expenses — it will hurt industries trying to compete globally.

What are the challenges industries face regarding wages and MSME policies?
Industries are concerned about the government's proposal to increase minimum wages, with the government suggesting Rs 50,000m, while labour unions are demanding Rs 30,000. The matter is currently in court, and industries argue that such a steep wage hike would make their products more expensive. This could harm their ability to succeed in global markets. Industries have also approached the court, stating that the increase in wages would significantly raise manufacturing costs, impacting their viability. In addition, the MSME (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) policy needs urgent revision.

What solutions are industries proposing for infrastructure and ease of doing business?
Industries are pushing for improvements in infrastructure and procedural efficiency. The single-window clearance system, which is supposed to simplify approvals, is not functioning effectively. It often takes six months to a year to obtain all the required licenses, delaying the setup of new industries. To address this, industries are urging the government to streamline the process by ensuring all departments involved in approvals work collaboratively and provide all clearances at a single point, reducing delays for entrepreneurs. Moreover, industries are advocating the development of fully equipped industrial parks with complete infrastructure, including pollution control systems like ETP (Effluent Treatment Plants) and STP (Sewage Treatment Plants), underground water facilities, and health and safety measures. Currently, industrial areas are primarily allocated to large-scale industries, leaving small and micro enterprises without adequate resources or land. This imbalance makes it challenging for smaller industries to set up operations or even access basic facilities.

Have single-window and clearance issues always existed, or did they begin only recently?
Such issues have always existed, but over the last year, the situation has worsened. While it was somewhat manageable earlier, now the challenges are escalating daily. Each official interprets things differently, forcing us to meet them personally to resolve issues. This has affected the ease of doing business.

Is the government's claim of ease of doing business actually being implemented, or is it becoming more complicated?
It's getting more complicated. When the government talks about ease of doing business, it should focus on genuinely encouraging the business community. For instance, states like Gujarat, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have shown significant progress. However, Karnataka is falling behind in comparison. Unlike Maharashtra, which excels in manufacturing, or Uttar Pradesh, which has rapidly industrialised, Karnataka has not made similar strides. For true ease of doing business, the government must simplify processes and eliminate delays. When businesses come to the government's doorstep to seek licences, the government must ensure licences are delivered at their doorstep.

Do you think Karnataka would lose its inherent advantage in bringing in industries?
Yes. The advantage of Karnataka is a good labour force, and high availability of technically sound people. However we are not using this advantage, as they are moving out to other states and countries. Karnataka should realise this and encash the advantage of available resources. Youngsters are interested in setting up industries and businesses, and the government should hand-hold youngsters. Government should give them necessary quick approvals and subsidies and provide them with 'plug and play' setups, especially first-generation entrepreneurs.

EXPRESS Dialogues

How difficult is it for small-scale industries to get loans?
Getting loans for small-scale industries is a significant challenge. While the government has introduced facilities to distribute loans up to a certain amount, the process is not transparent. Banks are not providing clear details about who is receiving these loans. We have asked the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to mandate banks to display the names of entrepreneurs and their industries that have benefited. Right now, many genuine entrepreneurs are not getting loans because of issues like collateral requirements and a lack of proper systems. Often, loans are given to individuals or entities that do not genuinely need them, while real entrepreneurs and small businesses are left out.

What are your budget expectations?
Ease of doing business and policies to support MSMEs are the major asks in the budget. Formalities of converting agricultural land should be eased. Many own agri lands and want to set up industries, but that process is big. We urge the Union government for a 'uniform labour code' and also make licensing uniform across India. This will make setting up industries and manufacturing costs uniform across India.

Does Karnataka have enough land for industries?
Yes, Karnataka has enough land banks. We urge people to go for dry land instead of wet land. Instead of keeping idle dry land, it can be given to industries and in exchange, as per the law, such farmers will be given a percentage of developed commercial land. He can give it for rent and earn a regular income, instead of keeping dry land which earns him nothing.

What is the status of labour and skilled training in Karnataka?
The majority is aiming to get into the software industry. The manufacturing industry also has the same potential. Colleges are giving skilled training and internships. However, the government has to make training and internships mandatory for one year. This will help industries absorb them into the workforce after college.

Where does Karnataka stand in South India, in terms of ease of doing business?
Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are doing better than Karnataka. They are great competitors for the state. They have many advantages, which include proximity to Bengaluru International Airport, much closer to the Andhra border than Bengaluru. Labour is cheap in Andhra compared to Karnataka.

Most workers come from North India...
We have a category of people who come for jobs. You find people from North-East India in the hospitality sector, Biharis in the construction sector, and people from Uttar Pradesh for other labour-intensive jobs. In Karnataka we mostly find people in the supervisor category. We are more dependent on outside labour force than on local labourers.

What about industries not going to certain parts of Karnataka ?
The government should provide more benefits. For example, in tier-two cities, if I want to start an industry, I should get 24-hour power supply. The government needs to support industries in rural areas. Without power, we have to rely on generators, which increases the cost of manufacturing. The government should develop industrial estates in tier-two cities with uninterrupted power and all necessary facilities. They should also provide incentives to attract industries. Local labourers in rural areas are cheaper compared to Bengaluru. People are migrating to Bengaluru because they don't have jobs in their hometowns. If the government creates jobs in their hometowns, they will stay and work there.

Are land prices higher in other cities?
Definitely it's cheaper outside Bengaluru. However, people are coming to Bengaluru because of its advantages. Bengaluru offers 24-hour power, established industrial hubs, and an abundance of labour. In rural areas, high-skilled technical workers may not always be available. But now, tier-two cities like Belagavi, Hubballi, Mysuru, Vijayapura, Gadag, and Bagalkot are well-developed and have a significant number of industries. The government needs to ensure uninterrupted power supply, offer incentives, and provide tax holidays for five years. The government should encourage industries to set up operations outside Bengaluru.

What about climate change laws?
They are a necessity. Many industries are focusing on sustainability, especially those involved in exports. Most industries have already implemented measures to comply with these laws. It has now become mandatory for every industry to prioritize environmental protection and sustainability.

Are industries and investments moving to neighboring states?
Yes, large industries are moving to other states because those states provide better facilities. The way industries are handled in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is different compared to Karnataka.

What three key suggestions would you like to give the Industries minister of the state?
Implement a single-window system where licenses and approvals are granted quickly. Files should be processed within 24 hours, and licenses issued within 30 minutes. Use digital tools for instant communication and tracking. Secondly, allocate land promptly for industries and ensure private investors can develop industrial hubs. Align rules, like pollution-control fees, with other states to reduce costs for businesses. The third suggestion is the government needs to improve infrastructure and make licensing processes fully digital. Simplify systems like e-khata to reduce errors and delays. Focus on delivering services efficiently to attract industries.

When you talk about the single-window system not being functional and departments not completing work, are you implying corruption?
I can't say that exactly, but there are definitely delays. When multiple officials are involved, things take time. For example, changing land use requires approvals from the PDO, tahsildar, Assistant Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner — four different offices, each taking their own time. These processes should move online.

How well is the Indian economy doing?
The Indian economy has significantly improved compared to a decade ago. Previously, most imports were dollar-based, but today, many countries export to India in rupees, reducing our reliance on foreign currency. This shift has impacted some nations, including the US, but highlights India's growing economic strength. Over the years, India's economy has progressed, benefiting from competitive wages and increasing infrastructure development. The reduced reliance on Chinese imports has boosted indigenous manufacturing, improving quality awareness and driving exports. As exports rise and with potential tax structure liberalization, India's economy is on track to becoming one of the strongest globally.

With Aero India around the corner, how are you looking forward to it from the industry perspective?
The defence and aerospace manufacturing industry will grow well, thanks to the incentives being offered by the Central government. The day is not very far when everything will be manufactured in India.

What suggestion would you like to give to the government?
Karnataka has a lot of tourism potential. The government should take advantage of it and help people take up tourism as a business. Another important neglected field is agriculture. What would happen if everyone from villages migrated to cities in search of jobs. Agriculture is often seen as a loss-making venture. The government should focus on changing the perception. It should handhold farmers and make agriculture a profitable venture. A robust marketing system should be devised for agricultural products. If agriculture is converted into a business, the country would grow much more.

Is the infrastructure in Bengaluru congenial for industry?
Bengaluru is saturated, and any infrastructure development can be done only about 150km from Bengaluru. Everywhere there is a residential area, which is why industrialists in Peenya Industrial Area are demanding an alternative location. The authorities will have to improve mass transportation in the city, be it the circular train or connecting Metro, so that industries can sustain.

What is your advice to youngsters who want to start their own business?
They must learn the skill. In colleges, they get ideas but they must be converted into business. If they start without proper preparation, they will have to face a lot of hurdles. Also, they must be ready to sustain for three years as businesses won't yield results immediately. To encourage youngsters, we have the 'Manthan' programme designed by FKCCI. We handhold them in converting their ideas into business models.

Flag falls from tallest pole in Hosapete, probe ordered

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR
@Hosapete

The national flag, which was to fly on top of the tallest flagpole in the country, malfunctions during the Republic Day celebrations in Hosapete on Sunday | EXPRESS

THE Tricolour fell off the country's tallest flagpole at Hosapete, the headquarters of Vijayanagara district, during the Republic Day celebrations on Sunday. The problem occurred because of lack of maintenance of the 405 ft flagpole and district incharge minister Zameer Ahmad Khan ordered a probe and instructed the deputy commissioner to submit a report within two days.

The flag fell as the cables attached to it and operated with a remote control snapped midway. Also, the flagpole had not been tested before the flag was hoisted on the important day. A technical team rushed to the spot and investigated why the flag malfunctioned. The flag has not been hoisted on the flagpole over the last few months and it was not in regular use and that might have caused the problem. The video of the malfunctioning flag went viral on social media sites.

Zameer Ahmad, who is also the housing minister, said it is unfortunate that the national flag malfunctioned on Republic Day. "It made me personally unhappy about the flagpole management. I have told officials concerned to conduct an inquiry and submit the report to the deputy commissioner. As a district incharge minister, I had hoisted the flag at Puneeth Rajkumar ground. Never such an incident has occurred. Once the report is submitted, necessary action will be taken against officials responsible," he added.

After high command's gag order, Siddu camp falls in line

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar celebrate Republic Day at the Congress party office in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah showing signs of toeing the line of the Congress high command as he reportedly admitted, though subtly, to a power-sharing arrangement between him and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar is apparently having a cascading effect. The duo seems to have buried their differences after weeks of shadow boxing with the coterie of ministers aligned with Siddaramaiah, especially PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi, indirectly staking claim to the KPCC president's post, which is at present held by Shivakumar.

Other ministers in the Siddaramaiah camp, including Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara – who nurtured the dream of becoming CM, and Social Welfare Minister Dr HC Mahadevappa, have stopped making public statements on change of guard in the party and government after a gag order issued by AICC president Mallikarjuna Kharge.

On fans raising slogans for his becoming the chief minister, Parameshwara said in Tumakuru on Sunday that he will not care to reply to political queries.

Shivakumar, who looked visibly relieved, held talks with Kharge on the sidelines of the Republic Day celebration at the KPCC office in Bengaluru on Sunday. He was in a jovial mood. When asked what instructions Kharge gave, wearing a huge smile, he replied, "He (Kharge) built this office. Shouldn't he be there for two minutes and have a coffee? Will you make public what your family discusses? Congress is one family. The chief minister has made it clear during the 'bagina' dedication programme held at the Vani Vilas Sagar dam in Chitradurga district (on Thursday) that there is no crisis between us. He (Siddaramaiah) has clarified everything before you (media)." He indirectly hinted at Siddaramaiah abiding by the party high command's decision.

> **Since Siddaramaiah is prepared to toe the high command's line, ministers too have lost their ground to stake claim for the top post**
> - A Congress leader

Siddaramaiah's followers within the ministry have reportedly admitted to a change in guard in the government after October 2025 when the chief minister completes his 30-month tenure as CM. "Since Siddaramaiah is prepared to toe the high command's line, ministers too have lost their ground to stake claim for the top post," a Congress leader told *TNIE*.

Home min wants B'luru's 2nd airport near Tumakuru

ENS @ Tumakuru

EVEN as DCM DK Shivakumar has been pitching for a site close to his Kanakapura Assembly constituency, between Bidadi and Harohalli, to host Bengaluru's second international airport, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara has continued to advocate strongly in favour of his hometown, Tumakuru.

"I have requested Minister of Large-scale Industries and Infrastructure MB Patil to set up Bengaluru's second international airport in the vicinity of Tumakuru. Land has already been identified in two places -- 3,000 acres off NH-48 near Vasantha Narasapura Industrial Area, and 4,000-5,000 acres near Seebi temple in Sira taluk," he told reporters, after attending Republic Day celebrations at the Mahatma Gandhi Stadium here on Sunday.

He said Tumakuru, located just 70 km away from Bengaluru, is growing rapidly. It has 11 Assembly constituencies and three Lok Sabha constituencies, and Tumakuru will become a part of Greater Bengaluru as the government is working towards that, he elaborated.

POLITICAL THEATRE

Muslims didn't oppose after Babri Masjid was demolished, Ram Mandir built: Rayareddy

KOPPAL: Chief minister's economic advisor and MLA Basavaraj Rayareddy said here on Sunday that even though Babri Masjid was demolished and Ram temple was built, Muslims did not oppose during the long-drawn episode as they are educationally backward. At an event in Sahitya Bhavan, he said, "Not just Hindus, even a large number of Muslims, fought for the freedom of the country. BJP should read history and understand this. They should not create a rift between Hindus and Muslims. Already, they have created the waqf property dispute, while the law was amended during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure to seize waqf properties. Waqf properties are donated. If a property comes to the Waqf Board, it is like coming to the government as the Board is nothing but the government." He said, "It is Muslims who have sold Waqf properties. They have done so as they are poor. Nothing wrong with that. Anyway, 90% of these properties have been acquired by Muslims and the Board is now trying to get it back. It is not fair to bring religion into this. If there is a fight between religions, this country will be divided. Hindus and Muslims should live like brothers".

Former PM and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda said that he will tour entire Karnataka in March to strengthen the party. "HD Kumaraswamy is a Union minister. He has to travel and work across the country. I, Nikhil and senior and junior leaders will build the party with the workers' force," he said

Dr Cherian, man behind India's first coronary artery surgery, no more

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

RENOWNED cardiac surgeon Dr KM Cherian, who performed the country's first coronary artery bypass surgery in 1975, passed away in Bengaluru. He was 82. Dr Cherian's passing has left the nation grieving and the medical fraternity mourning the loss of a legend.

A Padma Shri awardee, Dr Cherian's contributions to cardiac care in India remain unmatched. From performing India's first coronary artery bypass surgery in 1975 to pioneering the country's first heart-lung transplant, pediatric cardiac surgery, and more, his list of firsts is as long as his legacy.

Born on March 8, 1942, in Kayamkulam, Kerala, Dr Cherian's journey began at the Christian Medical College, Vellore. His quest for excellence took him across continents to Australia, New Zealand, and the US. He performed his first open-heart surgery on his 26th birthday in Australia.

Returning to India, Dr Cherian performed feats that were once considered impossible. He achieved India's second heart transplant in 1995 and soon followed with the first heart-lung transplant. His expertise wasn't limited to adults. He pioneered pediatric cardiac surgery, changing the lives of countless children. His influence spread beyond the operating table-he founded Madras Medical Mission, Frontier Lifeline Hospital, and Frontier Mediville, India's first medical SEZ and science park.

Dr Cherian's accolades are countless. He served as the honorary surgeon to the President of India and became the first Indian to preside over the World Society of Cardio-Thoracic Surgeons in 2010. His name is etched on a stone in Kos Island, Greece, alongside three other Indian surgeons-a tribute to his global recognition.

Despite his towering achievements, Dr Cherian was a man of humility and empathy. His charitable trust established the St. Gregorios Cardio-Vascular Centre in Kerala, and his educational trust founded "The Study - L'ecole Internationale" in Puducherry emphasizing his commitment to giving back.

DR K M CHERIAN
March 8, 1942-January 26, 2025

Pained by the passing of Dr. KM Cherian, one of the most distinguished doctors of our country. His contribution to cardiology will always be monumental, not only saving many lives but also mentoring doctors of the future — Prime Minister Narendra Modi

WE WILL STOP ANY ANTI-PEOPLE PROJECT BY CENTRE, SAYS STALIN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Madurai

THE Tamil Nadu government will halt any project initiated by the Union government if it harms the people of the state, the state's Chief Minister M K Stalin said during a thanksgiving function organised by Melur villagers. The event was organised on Sunday to thank the state government for its efforts to get the Union government to annul the auction of the tungsten mining project in Melur taluk. Stalin attended the events held in Arittapatti and Vallalapatti villages in Madurai district.

"The Dravidian model government, considering the welfare of the people, passed a resolution in the Assembly against the tungsten mining project and our MPs continuously raised the issue in Parliament. Apart from this, the pressure exerted by the people of this area has contributed to the project being scrapped. At the time of passing the resolution, the AIADMK and all other parties came together in the Assembly and unanimously passed the resolution."

TN CM MK Stalin receives Governor RN Ravi at the Republic Day celebrations in Chennai on Sunday | P JAWAHAR

Earlier, Stalin recalled the protest, and action taken regarding the tungsten mining project. Further, Stalin assured the villagers that the tungsten mining project would not materialise as long as he was the chief minister of the state.

"Elections are slated to be held in a year and a half. You and I know what the people have decided for that election. No matter what, we will be there for the people of Tami Nadu, and the people will also stand by us. The DMK will always be present for the people," the chief minister added.

After the programme, Stalin received petitions from the residents of Vallalapatti and Arittapatti. After the CM's announcement, cases lodged against nearly 11,608 people over the anti-tungsten mining project were withdrawn by the police on Sunday.

Stalin skips Guv's At Home

Tamil Nadu Chief Ministerr MK Stalin, his Cabinet colleagues, DMK's alliance parties, and top officials of the state government, including Chief Secretary N Muruganandam and DGP Shankar Jiwal, skipped the At Home reception hosted by Governor RN Ravi on the occasion of the Republic Day celebrations. However, representatives of the AIADMK D Jayakumar and N Balaganga, BJP state president K Annamalai and senior leaders H Raja and former governor Tamilisai Soundararajan were present.

4 men, 18 buffaloes die as 2 trucks collide in TN

KRISHNAGIRI: Four people and 18 buffaloes died near Bargur after a lorry carrying onion collided with a truck transporting buffaloes on the Krishnagiri-Chennai National Highway early on Sunday. Three others who suffered injuries are currently under treatment. According to police, V Narayanan (55) was transporting onion in a lorry from Maharashtra to Chennai. When the vehicle reached Athimarathupallam near Bargur, the driver lost control, rammed through the median, entered the opposite lane, and crashed his lorry into an oncoming truck carrying 42 buffaloes from Andhra Pradesh to Coimbatore. Spotting the wayward lorry, a mini truck, which swerved to narrowly avoid a crash, lost control and turned turtle. While lorry driver Narayanan, and truck driver R Aruljothi (54) and his assistant S Manikandan (42) — both from Dindigul — died on the spot, Narayanan's assistant Karim Sabir Bagwan (38) of Solapur, died while being taken to the Government Krishnagiri Medical College Hospital, police said. Eighteen buffaloes died, 18 were injured, and six escaped unhurt. B Vijay (38), K Kadhar Basha (36) and R Rajesh (31), all from Nandyal district in Andhra Pradesh, who were in the truck transporting buffaloes, were injured. The road was cleared within a few hours, with traffic returning to normal. ENS

Conclave to kick off with discourse on rights, duties

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SHEKAR Nair, Co-founder, Upekkha, and Prof Balaraman Ravindran, Head of Wadia School of Data Science & AI, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, will explore the changing socio-political dynamics due to AI in their sessions.

In addition, the lineup boasts of political leaders such as K Annamalai and Praveen Chakravarty, authors Anirudh Kanisetti and Vikram Sampath, actor Karthi, musicians Sandeep Narayan and Radhe Jaggi, among others.

A look at the Indosphere

The two-day conclave will kick off with a much-needed discourse on rights and duties in India, delivered by NHRC Chairperson and former Supreme Court judge Justice V Ramasubramanian. An eminent panel that includes Dr Ujwala Chakradeo, Vice-Chancellor, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, Dr Maneesha V Ramesh, Provost, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, and Prof Basuthkar J Rao, Vice-Chancellor, University of Hyderabad, will deliberate on making campuses and higher education accessible to all. Complementing this discussion, Geeta Jayanth, Head of School, Chaman Bhartiya School, Dr Jayshree Periwal, Chairperson, Jayshree Periwal Group of Schools, and Padmini Sambasivam, Founding Principal, Shiv Nadar School, will address the unique challenges of educating Gen Z. Together, these panels promise a comprehensive exploration of India's evolving education system. Catch a glimpse into the Parliament as first-time MPs John Brittas, Angomcha Bimol Akoijam, and Dr RN Behera share their experiences as debutant Parliamentarians. Adding depth to the discussion, senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor will reflect on Parliament's evolving dynamics in a shifting political landscape.

On the global front, senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Subramanian Swamy will share his take on India's standing in the geopolitical landscape. Turning the focus inwards, Mukunda CR will lead an introspective session on "The Culture Project: Values for Viksit Bharatiya". As a fitting end to the day, Tamil actor Karthi will delve deep into his journey in the film industry in conversation with senior journalist Kaveree Bamzai in his session "What Lies Beneath: Getting into Character".

Day 2 promises equally engaging discussions with historians Vikram Sampath and Anirudh Kanisetti shedding light on various facets of Indian history through their sessions "Heroes, Villains & Survivors" and "Enigmatic Empires: Who were the Cholas?". Meanwhile, Sanjeev Sanyal explores the lessons history has for the present-day polity.

Arif Mohammed Khan will advocate for moralistic education, while Dr Pratima Murthy and Dr Koushik Sinha Deb will explore the silent epidemic of mental health issues in India. Adding a spiritual dimension, Swamy Shailendra Saraswati will highlight the need for spirituality in navigating the material world. The ThinkEdu Conclave has featured 400-plus speakers and 310 sessions, including Union Ministers, former Presidents and Vice-Presidents, prominent politicians and thought leaders.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.3,46,09,210/- (Rupees Three Crore Forty Six Lakh Nine Thousand Two Hundred and Ten only)** as on **20-01-2025** together with further interest to be charged from **21-01-2025** onwards, other expenses and any other dues to the Bank by the Borrowers / Guarantors **No.1) M/s. Seven Hills Enterprises, No.257, Doddanekundi Village, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560037. No.2) Mr. K. Mohan, S/o. Karuppana Goundar, No.14, 2nd Cross, Chowdaiah Block, Sivan Chetty Gardens, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560042. No.3) Mrs. Tamilarasi, W/o. K. Mohan, No.14, 2nd Cross, Chowdaiah Block, Sivan Chetty Gardens, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560042. No.4) Mr. Kaveen Kumar, S/o. K. Mohan, No.14, 2nd Cross, Chowdaiah Block, Sivan Chetty Gardens, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560042. No.5) Mr. Surya, S/o. K. Mohan, No.14, 2nd Cross, Chowdaiah Block, Sivan Chetty Gardens, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560042. No.6) Mr. S.J. Doraiswamy Reddy, S/o. G. Subramanyam Reddy, No.25, Behind Devegowda Petrol Bunk, Chinnapa Naidu Layout, Banasankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560085. No.7) M/s. Jalsa, No.25/7, Doddanekundi, K.R. Puruam, Bangalore - 560037. Also at : M/S.Jalsa, No. 25, Next to Grand Mall Outer Ring Road, Marathalli, Bangalore - 560 037. No.8) Mrs. Jyothi, W/o. Gangadhara Reddy, No.6, Gangajothi Nilayam, Mallige Thotta, Cholur Palya, Bangalore - 26. No.9) Mr. Lokeshwara Reddy, S/o. Gangadhara Reddy, No.6, Gangajothi Nilayam, Mallige Thotta, Cholur Palya, Bangalore - 26. No.10) Ms. Rupa, D/o. Gangadhara Reddy, No.6, Gangajothi Nilayam, Mallige Thotta, Cholur Palya, Bangalore -26. No.11) Ms. Kavitha, D/o. Gangadhara Reddy, No.6, Gangajothi Nilayam, Mallige Thotta, Cholur Palya, Bangalore - 26. No.12) Mr. Dilip Reddy, S/o. Gangadhara Reddy, No.6, Gangajothi Nilayam, Mallige Thotta, Cholur Palya, Bangalore - 26. No.13) Mrs. Vijayakumari, W/o. S.J. Doraiswamy Reddy, No.25, Behind Devegowda Petrol Bunk, Chinnapa Naidu Layout, Banasankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560085.**

Note : That our **148 - Bengaluru-Jaya Nagar Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (SWAYAM GRIHA - BUS BR : 50131203001773 9) dated **10-07-2019** requested by No.2 of you for which No.3 of you stood as Co-obligant and No. 2 of you stood as Guarantor for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.38,00,000/-** at a ROI of **11.25%** and the outstanding balance as on **20-01-2025 is Rs.1,98,864/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **21-01-2025** till the date of realization.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - D : (Property Owned by Mr. K. Mohan, S/o. Karuppana Goundar)

All that piece and parcel of the Vacant Plot / Site Property bearing Site No.6, Junjar No.473, Property No.374, formed in Sy. Nos. 40/1, 40/2 and 40/3 situated at Chandapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, presently coming under the Chandapura Gram panchayat limits, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet and Totally measuring 1,200 Square feet and bounded on: East by : Site No. 5, West by : Site No. 7, North by : 25 feet Road, South by : Site No.11.

Reserve Price : Rs.30,00,000/-
(Rupees Thirty Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
13-02-2025	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Jaya Nagar Branch, No.126, 33rd Cross, 11th Main, 4th Block, Near A.V.R. Swarna Mahal Signal, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011. Telephone Nos.080-26639771, 080-26639772 Cell Nos. 9343130500, 9341010605.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he /she is bidding for himself /herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Ltd., Bengaluru-Jaya Nagar Branch, No.126, 33rd Cross, 11th Main, 4th Block, Near A.V.R. Swarna Mahal Signal, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.",** on or before **12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone Nos.080-26639771, 080-26639772, Cell Nos. 9343130500, 9341010605. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As- is- where- is" , "As-is-what-is" and "whatever there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an open auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount immediately on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15** days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues) TDS,GST if any, due to Government, Government undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 24-01-2025 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	46459430000101 & 46459410001074	1) Mr. Narasimhaiah, Also at: M/s. Flower and Vegetable Business, 2)Mrs. Vijaya V	13-11-2024 Rs.9,78,224.93 (Rupees Nine Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Four and Ninety Three Paisa Only) due as on 11-11-2024	Date: 24-01-2025 Time: 12:08 PM Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing No.71, Sl.No.66, situated at Ganjarahalli Village, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Presently comes under the limits of Shivanapura Village Panchayath and **Bounded on the: East by:** Road, **West by:** House of Lakshmaiah, **North by:** Road, **South by:** House of Sundaramma. Measuring East to West 32 Feet and North to South 44 Feet.			
2	46459630000581 & 46459410000210	1) Mr. Srinivasa T C, 2) Mrs. Lakshmi Kanthamma	15.11.2024 Rs.9,16,287.81 (Rupees Nine Lakh Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Seven and Paisa Eighty One Only) due as on 14-11-2024	Date: 24-01-2025 Time: 01:35 PM Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Janjar No.75/1, situated at Theneyur Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Measuring 40 Feet X 60 Feet and **Bounded by the: East by:** Property belongs to Karagappa & Venkatamma, **West by:** Property belongs to Savitha, **North by:** Road of Narasimhamurthy, **South by:** Property belongs to Shekhar Gowda.			

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore Rural	Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Date: 27.01.2025	For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕಬಿನಿ ನಾಲೆಗಳ ವಿಭಾಗ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 08221-226261, email: kodngd@gmail.com

ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ.
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 16/2024-25 ದಿ.24.01.2025

ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಸುತ್ತೂರು ಬಳಿ ಕಬಿನಿ ನದಿಗೆ ಅಡ್ಡಲಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿರುವ ವಿಯರ್‌ಅನ್ನು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸುವ ರೂ. 83.53 ಲಕ್ಷದ 1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಎರಡು-ಟಿ.ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ಏಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ರನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-3 ಅನುಸಾರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೊಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ದೊರೆತ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕಬಿನಿ ನಾಲೆಗಳ ವಿಭಾಗ, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು

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(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-42/812/2024-25 Date: 23.01.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below :

Name of the Work : Providing and fixing Gantry Board, Road Marking, other Road safety items and Potholes filling at Vemgal Industrial Area, Main Road, Kolar Taluk & District. (Call-2)

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **13.02.2025** upto **4.30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/4552/Zen/2024-25

DCB BANK

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general, the borrowers & guarantors in particular by the Authorized Officer that the under mentioned property is equitably mortgaged to DCB Bank limited has taken Physical possession under the provisions of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

The property will be sold E auction as mentioned below for recovery of Rs.72,52,082/- (Rupees Seventy Two Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Eighty Two only) as on 23rd January 2025 with further interest, charges & cost etc thereof.

The property will be sold in"as is where is", "as is what is", "whatever there is" and "no recourse" basis/condition. This is also notice to the Borrower & Co Borrower of the said loan about holding of the auction sale of the below mentioned property, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full.

Name of Borrower(s) & Guarantors :M/s Ravi Photo Flash (Prop. K V Ravi Kumar) 2. Mr. Ravi Kumar3. Mr. Sarasvathi K S
All are residing at Amma Nilaya, Behind Don Bosco College, Kumbalagudu,Kengeti Bengalore -560 060

Description of Mortgage Properties	Reserve Price	E.M.D.	Inspection Date & Time	Sale Date & Time
All the piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 174, Katha No. 3/8, situated at Kumbalgodu village, KengeriHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West - 30 feet, and North to South 30 Feet in all measuring 900 Sq. Ft. and bounded by: Easy By:Property belongs to Shivarudraiah West By:20 Feet Road,North by:15 Feet Road,South By:Property of Nagaraju .	Rs.43,80,000/-	Rs.4,38,000/-	07th Feb 2025 11.00 am to 4.00 pm	From 11.30 on 28th Feb 2025

Date and time of submission of EMD is on or before 27th Feb 2025 before 5 pm with request letter of participation KYC, Pan Card, Proof of EMD at email id narendra.ninganeedu@dcbbank.com -9900432255.
The intending purchasers/bidders are required to deposit EMD amount through Demand Draft/Pay order in the name of DCB Bank LTD.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE E-AUCTION ARE AS UNDER:

1. E-Auction is being held on "as is where is " and "whatever there is Basis" and will be conducted "On Line". The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider M/s ShriramAutomall India Limited (Contact No..... at their web portal https://eauctions.samil.in/. E-auction tender document containing online e-auction bid form, Declaration , General Terms and Conditions of online auction sale are available in https://eauctions.samil.in/.
2. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property/ies. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding theencumbrance, title of the property/ies put on auction and claims/ rights/ dues/ affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e- Auction advertisement does not constitute and will be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether know or unknown to the Bank. The authorized Officer/ Secured creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/right/dues.
3. The EMD is refundable without any interest if the bid is not successful. The undersigned reserve the rights to accept or reject any or all the offers or adjourned / postpone the sale without assigning any reason thereof. If the offer is accepted, the purchaser will have to deposit 25% (less EMD Amount) of the sale price immediately on the auction day and if the purchaser fails to deposit the same, the amount deposited towards earnest money shall be forfeited and the property shall forthwith be sold again. The balance amount of purchase price shall be payable on or before the 15th day of confirmation of sale and in default of payment within the stipulated period, the deposit towards earnest money will be forfeited and property will be re-sold. Any other statutory dues/ taxes/ stamp duty/ registration fee/ transfer fee have to be borne by the buyer separately.
4. The sale shall be subject to rules/ conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Date: 27/01/2025 Sd/-Authorized Officer,
Place :Bangalore DCB Bank Limited

EDITORIAL

By common endeavour we can raise the country to a new greatness, while a lack of unity will expose us to fresh calamities

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

26/11 CO-CONSPIRATOR'S EXTRADITION TO UNPEEL ROLE OF PAK DEEP STATE

WITH the US Supreme Court rejecting 26/11 co-conspirator Tahawwur Rana's appeal against extradition, the Canadian national of Pakistani origin will shortly face trial in India. That the verdict came a day after Donald Trump's inauguration as US president was perhaps incidental, but it marked an important milestone in the deepening Indo-US ties to combat terror. Around the same time, India sought to iron out wrinkles by announcing the recommendation of a high-level committee that went into the botched attempt to bump off Khalistani radical Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a Canadian-American lawyer who hails from Punjab, on US soil. The panel advised expeditious legal action against a RAW officer who went rogue and handled the messy operation from Delhi. The officer was subsequently sacked. With Trump back in the White House, how he would deal with elements instigating violence in India is not clear yet. India designated Pannun as a terrorist in 2020. Would Trump help expedite Pannun's extradition? Possibly as a safety valve, the rabble-rouser gatecrashed into Trump's inaugural ceremony but raised Khalistani slogans.

As for Rana, he had provided critical support to David Coleman Headley, who had scouted sites for the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. He also assisted terrorists who plotted the beheading of employees of a Danish newspaper from his base in the US at Lashkar-e-Toiba's behest. Headley and Rana were high school mates and later joined the Pakistan army. Rana was sentenced to 14 years in jail in America. Headley had pleaded guilty in 2010 to aiding and abetting the massacre of 166 people in Mumbai, which included six Americans. His plea deal included protection from extradition to India.

Immigration service is the easiest of the covers used by spooks worldwide. Whether or not he was part of Pakistan's sleeper cell, Rana ran the First World Immigration Services in the US and let Pakistani terror outfits use it to further their objectives. For example, Headley employed the First World business card as a cover for target scouting in Mumbai and Holland. Rana's extradition is expected to help establish the role of Pakistan's deep state in the 26/11 carnage. The US turned Headley approver to get his and Rana's conviction. How India would peel off the layers of secrecy and make Rana sing remains to be seen.

FOCUS ON GROWTH TO DEAL WITH THE RUPEE DILEMMA

THE rupee poses a greater challenge for Reserve Bank of India than its perennial growth-versus-inflation dilemma. The rupee has fallen by around 3 percent in the past year. Donald Trump's victory in November only hastened the depreciation of the rupee as the dollar kept getting stronger in anticipation that the US economy would benefit from the policies of the new President. Yet, the rupee was better than most emerging market currencies thanks to RBI's interventions to protect the rupee. The Indian central bank sold dollars in the forex market to keep the rupee from hitting new lows, and in doing so, it depleted the country's foreign exchange reserve by $80 billion. India's forex reserves fell from $705 billion in September to $623 billion by January 17, an 11-month low. The aggressive interventions by the RBI have now ensured that the rupee remains overvalued vis-a-vis other currencies, with experts now seeing another 5-8 percent depreciation if RBI allows the market to value the local currency correctly. On this front, it does not have much choice, as it cannot continue depleting the forex reserves to support the rupee.

A weaker currency poses several bigger problems for RBI, which is under severe pressure to cut interest rates to uplift the economy, which is worryingly slowing down. A weaker currency risks exacerbating inflation, constraining the central bank's ability to consider a potential rate cut in February. It may also deter the RBI from injecting liquidity into the system, as excess liquidity could further fuel price pressures.

Moreover, the US dollar is poised to strengthen—especially with Donald Trump's return to the White House, which could revive policies favouring a robust greenback. The Indian economy has entered a vicious cycle where high interest rates and inflation stifle growth. However, if RBI cuts the interest rates, as everyone expects, it may risk an escalation in prices, which has a high possibility for a weaker rupee. The RBI might have to throw caution to the winds and take a bold policy stance in February by leaning towards growth rather than being too wary of inflation. It will also have to stop intervening in the forex market and let the rupee settle towards its 'real' value. A boost in growth might support the currency in the long run.

QUICK TAKE

LET THE TRUTH COME OUT

HOPEFULLY, Americans will get some closure after President Donald Trump declassified files on the assassinations of John F Kennedy, Robert F Kennedy, and Martin Luther King Jr. Sceptics still worry about data that never made it into the files. In India, Subhas Chandra Bose 'died' 79 years ago, and we still don't know who or what killed him. Japan has yet to give India three crucial files. Lal Bahadur Shastri's family members await closure since 1966. The Opposition terms the government's secrecy arbitrary because the Official Secrets Act of 1923 does not even define "official secrets". Now's the chance to bring the records to light in pursuit of transparency.

This Republic Day, when we glorify our brave citizens who have upheld our republic's moral values, we must also realise there are many more battles to be fought and many more to be won

VALUE THE REPUBLIC, CHERISH FREEDOM WON AT A COST

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha

SOURAV ROY

AS we celebrate the completion of 75 years of our republic, we, at the outset, pay homage to those who brought us freedom. We pay tribute to the sacrifices made by millions who resolved to fight the might of the Empire with the weapon of non-violence. Used for the first time in any freedom struggle, this weapon signified a moral authority more powerful than the threats, violence, and criminal dehumanising acts our people were subjected to.

After years of struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, the unwavering commitment of leading personalities who jettisoned their personal interests to join the struggle, and the sacrifices and emotive responses of millions of ordinary people, we won the long-fought battle for freedom. Though etched in our memory, these moments of history reverberate even today. Our republic owes its very existence to this struggle.

All individuals, all societies, by the nature of their existence, are aspirational. At the same time, all governments of whatever hue think that they know best. There always exists a gap between aspirations and reality. In democratic societies, governments are brought to account after every few years. Unmet aspirations call for change, but governments seek longevity. If longevity in democratic societies is achieved by trampling freedoms, that becomes a societal concern. The seeds of the conflict lie there.

It is said that there is no present. There is only the past. It is the past through which we learn to commit once again to fight for the cause of freedom, the nature and the quality of which have changed with time. New challenges confront our republic.

We must not forget that freedoms won must never be lost; freedoms won must not be taken for granted, and freedoms won must be cherished and protected. This is the lesson we learn from history. The nature of power, in whatever form and wherever power exists, both at the level of the state and society, can infringe on our freedoms. We stand today not to denigrate or criticise but to reflect on times in the past when we stood up to the emasculation of our rights.

In that struggle, the role of the court and the legal fraternity will always be remembered. We cannot protect our cherished freedoms without a strong bar and an independent, fearless judiciary.

Lately, the leaders of the bar and the legal fraternity have been silent spectators to laws and executive acts that attempt to alter the balance between state accountability and our constitutional freedoms. Voices sought to be silenced, the rule of law diminished by arbitrary executive actions, and investigating agencies misused to instil fear are all matters that are an affront to the moral underpinnings of constitutional functioning. Issues like hate speech, increasing communal divisions, and the targeting of civil society organisations have further strained our democratic values and constitutional safeguards.

The state is perceived to have captured institutions constitutionally charged with the responsibility of checking executive excesses. Free and fair elections must be seen to be held. The use of the state apparatus to interfere in the electoral process is another aberration that is visible. The rampant use of money power in elections is evident. A majoritarian culture seeks to diminish entrenched constitutional freedoms. Corporate giants are recipients of government patronage, and they, in turn, are known to fund the parties in power.

The judiciary, too, seems to be losing its sheen with the waning public confidence it enjoyed in the past. A reasonably fair justice delivery system looks a far cry. In recent months, though, there is a visible emerging silver lining that gives us hope.

Society, by its very nature, is not static. Relationships between institutions, between those who govern and those who are governed, and between the mighty and the weak evolve with time, and new societal structures emerge in that dialectical relationship. In that context, we have witnessed existing values in the societal order breaking away from the past since the birth of our republic. If we desire to embrace the future, we need to move along with the global community to meet the challenges that emerge both from within and outside.

As citizens and, more importantly, as members of the legal community, we are responsible for understanding the dialectics of constant change; our fundamental duty is to resolve and stand up for those who willy-nilly become victims of that change. On a day like this, when we glorify our brave judges and our brave citizens who have upheld our republic's moral values, we also realise that there are many more battles to be fought and many more battles to be won.

The Bench and the bar function within the contours of our Constitution. This Bible of ours instils in us the values that we need to cherish—the values of sovereignty, of protecting the security of the state, of ensuring that our freedoms are not trampled upon, as this republic, through its democratic processes, seeks to realise the aspirations of ordinary folk at the bottom of the ladder. While the republic has done yeomen service to us in the past, we need to be vigilant in these troubling times.

Our republic represents the values of constitutional morality hidden within the cold print of the Articles of the Constitution. These are interpreted by our great judges, who truly understood, when confronted with challenges, the meaning of the constitutional values that permeate each Article of the Constitution. These values need to be preserved, and we, the members of the bar and the judges, owe our allegiance to the rule of law, the upholding of which is our solemn responsibility.

I hope, and I am sure, that we will discharge this responsibility to protect what the people of India gave us on January 26, 1950—the Constitution of India.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @KapilSibal)

CROSSING OVER FROM DARKNESS TO THE LIGHT

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

THE biggest *snan* or holy dip at the ongoing Mahakubh is on January 29, on *Mauni Amavasya*. The largest crowd is expected to gather then, approximately six crore people. Let us pray miscreants sent by known and unknown ill-wishers do not succeed in wreaking harm on the faithful multitudes. It is evidently no different on Earth from the cosmic dimension, where *asuras* and *rakshasas* frequently attack *Devalok*.

The good news is, though it may take time and involve much struggle, the *asuras* and *rakshasas* are always sent packing. There is a palpable connection between the *Kshirsagara Manthan* and the Kumbh that during the tussle between the *asuras* and *devas*, four drops of *amrita* (the nectar of immortality) fell on Earth at Prayagraj, Ujjain, Haridwar and Nashik, which sustain humanity.

But why is *Mauni Amavasya* so important? Religion is tied to nature, which defines a way of life. This year, the Indian month of *Magh* is from January 21 to February 19. By the time *Magh* begins, the cold has noticeably receded. So, it is an ideal time to bathe in the waters of holy rivers. This is encouraged by the cultural belief that while the entire month of *Magh* is perfect for bathing rituals, *Mauni Amavasya* is especially significant as the holy water is believed to transform into nectar, cleansing sins for those who bathe in it.

Mauni Amavasya translates as 'the silent moonless night'. On this day, people observe silence for spiritual growth and self-mastery and offer *tarpan* to their ancestors. This is believed to bring peace to the souls of ancestors and eliminate *pitru dosha*. *Tarpan* apparently comes from the Sanskrit root word '*trup*', which means '*satisfying*'. Think of the word '*trupti*' or '*tripti*' in the mother tongues.

The souls of our ancestors are said to be satisfied by an offering of water in their remembrance. This is called *tarpan*. By doing so, believers don't think their ancestors will actually drink the water. It is the sincere act of remembrance that is said to please them.

'*Pitru*' means forefathers, and '*dosha*' means the consequences of negative karma. So, the term '*pitru dosha*' refers to the negative karmic debts of our ancestors or any wrongdoings committed by people against their parents, which bring obstacles in the lives of descendants. It also occurs when our ancestors are unhappy for reasons such as forgetfulness, disrespect, or unfulfilled desires. Adverse effects include family conflicts, money troubles, health issues and career instability. *Tarpan* is a way of saying, "Please forgive us if anything is the matter, and bless us."

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Tarpan is a graceful, touching ritual, calling for peace in our lives. Instead of merely weeping, we are given physical options of symbolic closure. What modern psychiatrists charge steep fees for today is offered as a free remedy by tradition

I personally think it's a graceful, touching ritual calling for peace in our lives. I also like that instead of merely weeping and wailing, we are given such physical options of symbolic closure. What modern psychiatrists and psycho-therapists charge steep fees for today is offered as a free remedy by tradition out of love and concern for us because the mental well-being of humanity is its motive.

It is not restricted to Hindus. Anyone who finds meaning and beauty in this ritual can observe it without compromising their birth faith because while the ritual language is naturally Hindu, the nature of these rituals is universal.

Both Adi Shankara in the ancient past and Ramana Maharishi in the 20th century are known to have emphasised silence as a path to self-realisation and mental peace. According to Indian tradition, performing *pind-daan* (an offering of rice balls) and actual charity at a holy river while maintaining silence on this day is highly auspicious.

Such acts of charity on *Mauni Amavasya* are said to multiply a person's good karma many times over. The dip in holy water on this day is believed to afford more *punya* or merit than on other days. Those with planetary defects in their natal charts would like to participate in mitigating any negative effects from such placements. It is like how every religion upholds some especially holy days in its belief.

Driving these outward rituals is their philosophical basis. It is easy to say 'spiritual growth', but what exactly does that mean in our personal life? The *devas* or celestials, as per Advaita, are *chetna vidya* or knowledge through awareness, symbolised by *Ketu*. Asuras are *Rahu*, dragging us down. This churn between our bright and dark selves within our souls is symbolised by Mount Mandara, pulled by Vasuki in the *Kshirsagar Manthan*. Each of us contains a dark side called the '*paapa purusha*', which must be demolished. The river symbolises the crossing over from darkness to light. Shiva is Taraknath, the 'Lord of the Crossing' who takes us across. We pray to be touched by his grace to bring our inner selves to a better place.

Pind-daan is thus a symbolic offering that relates our micro existence, our little lives, with the macro existence, the larger cosmic order. Hence the illustrative saying, '*Yat pinde tat brahmaande*', the *pinda* or rice ball is like unto the universe.

But what about those who cannot attend the Mahakumbh and must miss being part of humanity's greatest gathering? As ever, tradition has an *upaay* or solution. Tulsidas says, '*Kalyug keval naam aadhara sumir sumir nar utarahi para*', meaning 'Only God's name works in Kalyug, remembering it always takes us across to the light'.

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Voyeuristic culture

Ref: *Feasting on the lives of others* (Jan 26). Our obsession with celebrities' private lives has created a toxic culture of voyeurism. The media's pursuit of sensationalism and the public's appetite for gossip have devastating consequences. It's time for a more empathetic and responsible media landscape.
Adina Khadija, Bengaluru

Public scrutiny

Perhaps this is the cost one has to pay for being a celebrity. The overkill of public scrutiny often makes routine life cumbersome. In the case of film icons, people etch a larger-than-life image and expect them to be superhumans.
Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

Unsung heroes

Ref: *Padma Vibhushan for MT, Suzuki czar* (Jan 26). Of the 113 eminent personalities nominated for this year's Padma awards, several unsung heroes have found a place. These unusual news headlines have become commonplace ever since the Modi government came to power in 2014. It's heartening that individuals who work silently in far-flung areas for society are now duly recognised.
Pratap Nayak, Bhubaneswar

Ashwin award

Ref: *Padma Bhushan for Sreejesh, Ashwin among 4 to get Padma Shri* (Jan 26). The conferring of the Padma Shri honour on Ravichandran Ashwin is a richly deserved recognition for a man who gave his all for the Indian cricket team. For someone who never got a proper farewell from the game, this honour is befitting his stature as one of the greats.
C M Umanath, Kozhikode

Strange speech

Ref: *ONOE can prevent policy paralysis: Prez* (Jan 26). None of the burning issues of the people was touched upon by the president in her Republic Day speech. But misplaced priorities like One Nation One Election found their place in her message. It is rather strange that there was no mention about the livelihood issues of the poor and middle class.
A G Rajmohan, Anantapur

Non-partisan post

It was unfortunate and unprecedented that the Tamil Nadu governor utilised the Republic Day function as a platform to level various charges against the elected government. As a matter of fact, he was the one obstructing the smooth functioning of the government by his non-cooperation and delaying bills for years. The governor's post is a non-partisan one. Occupying it, he cannot act as a politician for the ruling party at the Centre.
D Sethuraman, Chennai

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
Hearty congratulations to CM Pushkar Dhami on BJP's historic victory in the Uttarakhand Municipal Corporation elections.

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
Mahatma Gandhi faced the onslaught of the ideology that opposed him all his life. Today, BJP MPs cannot decide whether they should choose Gandhi over Godse.

Mamata Banerjee @MamataOfficial
I joined the grand Republic Day parade to celebrate 76 years of our Constitution – a living testament to the vision of an India rooted in SOVEREIGNTY, SECULARISM,

5K artistes, 45 dances enter Guinness

Performers cover entire Kartavya Path for first time during Republic Day grand show; local traditions celebrated

PARVEZ SULTAN AND RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

OVER 5,000 folk and tribal artists performed 45 dance forms from different parts of the country during the 76th Republic Day on Sunday, with the performers covering the entire Kartavya Path, for the first time, to ensure that all guests get the same viewing experience.

The 11-minute cultural performance, titled Jayati Jai Mamah Bharatam', was recognised by the Guinness World Records for 'The Largest Indian Folk Variety Dance'. Guinness officials announced this during a special ceremony held at Pusa, where the artistes rehearsed. The ministry of culture, which curated the performance along with Sangeet Natak Akademi, called it a "milestone that underscored the global significance of India's cultural wealth."

The choreographed artistic presentation was brought alive through the rich and colourful legacy of tribal and folk forms of the country as a tribute to the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. The choreography celebrated the themes of 'Viksit Bharat', 'Virasat bhi Vikas bhi', and 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. The lyrics were written by Subhash Sehgal and the music was composed by Shankar Mahadevan.

The folk and tribal artists brought their dance forms to life with their own original and authentic costumes, jewellery, headgear, and traditional props like spears, swords and drums.

The dance forms celebrated local traditions, ranging from focus on agricultural practices and harvest rituals, inspired by the natural and animal world, marking auspicious occasions and new beginnings, and victory of good over evil. Artistes from Arunachal Pradesh brought the mystique of their 'Snow Lion and Monpa Mask' dances to life, while the exuberant Bihu from Assam and energetic Kalbelia from Rajasthan showcased the dynamism of India's folk traditions.

The audience was spellbound by the mesmerising Padayani from Kerala and Chhau from Bengal and Odisha, which exemplified the storytelling brilliance of Indian dance forms.

(1) The Dare Devils, the Motorcycle Rider Display Team of the Indian Army's Corps of Signals, perform during the 76th Republic Day parade (2) Fly past by helicopters, (3) NCC candidates march at Kartavya Path in New Delhi, (4) Artists perform dance | **SHEKHAR YADAV/PTI**

PM's 'pagdi' signals cultural diversity

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi chose a red and yellow striped 'pagdi' or 'safa' for his Republic-Day look on Sunday, pairing it with a brown bandhgala jacket and pocket square.

Modi's selection of 'pagadi' for both Republic Day and the Independence Day continues to stand out as a symbol of India's vibrant traditions and cultural diversity, resonating with the message of unity and pride in the nation's heritage.

Flamboyant and colourful turbans have been a regular feature in the prime minister's Independence Day and Republic Day looks. Last year, he chose a multi-coloured "bandhani" print safa for his Republic-Day look. Bandhani is a type of tie-dye textile popular in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

The fabric is decorated by plucking the cloth with fingernails into many tiny bindings that form a figurative design.

In 2023 too, Modi wore a multi-coloured Rajasthani turban and complemented it with a pair of trousers and a kurta. Later that year, on the 77th Independence Day, he opted for a vibrant Rajasthani-style turban, with multiple colours and a lengthy tail.

In 2019, Modi sported a multicoloured turban as he delivered his sixth Independence-Day speech from the ramparts of the Red Fort, after returning to power for a second term with a thumping majority.

For his maiden Independence Day as prime minister in 2014, he had opted for a bright red Jodhpuri "bandhej" turban. In 2015, Modi chose a yellow turban covered with multicoloured criss-cross lines, and a tie-and-dye turban in hues of pink and yellow in 2016.

The PM's turban for 2017 was a mix of bright red and yellow with crisscrossed golden lines all over. He donned a saffron turban for his appearance at the Red Fort in 2018.

From a bright red "bandhani" turban from Kutch to a mustard Rajasthani 'safa', Modi's eye-catching turbans have been a highlight of his R-Day appearances too. In 2022, Modi had chosen a unique traditional cap from Uttarakhand for the Republic-Day celebrations.

The cap also had a Brahma Kamal-inspired brooch. Brahma Kamal is Uttarakhand's state flower, which the prime minister uses on every visit to Kedarnath.

INSIDER TRACK

Rahul upset with Delhi Congress leadership over padyatra strategy

Though Congress star campaigner Rahul Gandhi's no-show at the scheduled rallies has been attributed to his poor health, he is also reportedly miffed with his Delhi party unit's "unpreparedness" for the February 5 polls. According to sources, the Congress idea to hold padayatras by Rahul as well as Priyanka Gandhi Vadra hit the roadblock because of the lack of planning by the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee. Sources said that Rahul was expected to begin the first padayatra to campaign for Congress' New Delhi candidate Sandeep Dikshit on January 20 from Valmiki Temple. The place assumes significance as former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the 'broom' as AAP's party symbol in 2013 here. However, Gandhi got mightily upset during a Zoom meeting with the state unit leaders to discuss the strategies for the padayatra. Miffed and exasperated Gandhi then stormed out of the meeting after the state leaders failed to give a clear roadmap for the programme. Gandhi also asked them to prepare a concrete action plan before hitting the poll trail. Besides Gandhi, Priyanka also attended the Zoom meeting.

In a first, IPS Alankrita Singh's suspension revoked, VRS accepted

Possibly a first of its kind, the government has decided to revoke the suspension of 2008-batch IPS officer of UP cadre Alankrita Singh. Believed to be settled in London, Singh's application for voluntary retirement (VRS) has been accepted. The corridors of the North Block have been abuzz with a sense of surprise over the sudden decision of accepting the VRS application despite her being put under suspension. Singh was suspended from the service on charges of dereliction of duty and indiscipline after reports surfaced that she had gone to London without taking formal approval from the competent authority. She was SP of Women and Child Safety Department at that time. The senior IPS officer was not attending office since October 20, 2021. It is learnt that Singh's suspension was revoked and the VRS was accepted by the cadre controlling authority following a recommendation by the UP government.

Emotions, nostalgia and book-lover president Prabowo Subianto

Prabowo Subianto, President of Indonesia, was the chief guest for Republic Day celebrations. A former Army officer and defence minister, Prabowo met Prime Minister Modi during the G20 summit in Brazil last November and was thrilled about his visit to India. He refers to PM Modi as his "good brother" and has been vocal about the significance of this visit. While preparing for his trip, President Prabowo frequently discussed the deep historical ties between India and Indonesia, mentioning how President Sukarno was the first R-Day guest, India was the first country to advocate for Indonesian independence at the UN, and even how India gifted land for Indonesia's embassy. Prabowo is also quite hands-on — he met with the Indonesian marching contingent during their rehearsals a couple of times to cheer them on. He also made sure to check out a bookstore in Khan Market on Saturday, a move that won't surprise anyone who knows his love for books. The President has often shared his admiration for authors like Alexandre Dumas and Paulo Coelho, making his bookstore visit just another charming glimpse into his personal side.

Darjeeling startup owner among 40 special guests

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Republic Day celebrations at Kartavya Path turned special for a small rural town startup from Darjeeling that brought innovation to its tea legacy. The company that merchandises non-alcoholic beverages; unpasteurised 'kombucha' and sparkling tea, is among 40 such establishments that were invited as special guest for Republic Day parade by the department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT).

The startup, Syangbo's Living Food and Beverages Pvt Ltd, was founded by Ashish Syangbo Tamang, Sabnam Tamang, and Pritam Subba, IIM-Calcutta alumnus. It is transforming the traditional beverage landscape

with its organic tea-based creations. The founders, who hail from tribal communities of the Himalayan region, share a deep connection to Darjeeling's tea heritage.

"It gives us immense pride to be part of the celebration. We got an opportunity to interact with union minister of commerce Piyush Goyal. Only four startups were invited from the northeastern states. The DPIIT has been supporting the startup ecosystem," said Ashish.

He initiated the operations in 2022 and later got it registered as a company. The mission is to honor the legacy while crafting healthy, authentic, and flavorful alternatives to conventional beverages, said Ashish.

"Darjeeling tea has been cherished worldwide for generations. With Syangbo's, we wanted to take that tradition forward in a way that resonates with today's health-conscious audience," said Ashish, who has also served as civil engineer with the state government and defense officer.

Ashish's mother, Sabnam, serves as the company's master brewer. With over 25 years of experience in retail, she ensures each batch of kombucha and sparkling tea reflects the purity of Darjeeling.

Subba leverages his business expertise to streamline operations and scale the company. "Our products are raw, unpasteurized, preservative-free, and rich in antioxidants. "We want to offer a refreshing and natural alternative to sugary drinks while promoting a healthier lifestyle," Asish added

They have earned recognition on platforms, including G20--Startup20 and World Food India by the Ministry of Food Processing. "Empowering women and supporting small farmers is at the heart of everything we do. It's not just about building a business but creating a positive impact within our community," said Sabnam.

BJP using youngsters for divisive politics instead of giving jobs: Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

IN a message to the nation on the 76th Republic Day, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge mounted a scathing attack on the BJP-led Centre on Sunday, saying that a hateful agenda, immersed in religious fundamentalism, has sought to divide the society over 10 years. He added that every sacred tenet of the Constitution is being 'shredded into pieces by an authoritarian regime'.

He said that the BJP practices pseudo-nationalism by making disadvantaged youngsters carry the flag of "nationalism" and "religious supremacy", but does nothing to get them employment.

Jai Bapu, Jai Bhim rally

The Congress will hold second rally, 'Jai Bapu, Jai Bhim, Jai Constitution', at Madhya Pradesh's Mhow town, the birthplace of BR Ambedkar on Monday. Rahul Gandhi, who has not been campaigning for the Delhi Assembly polls because of his poor health, is set to attend the rally with Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge.

"It is high time that people preserved and protected the ideas and ideals of the Constitution. Be ready to make every sacrifice to protect the Constitution. This will be the true tribute to our ancestors," Kharge said. He added that minorities are being targeted and those who are secular are being tarnished with the paint of "Goebbelsian propaganda".

The weaker sections, Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), OBCs, the poor and minorities, are being treated as second-class citizens, he said.

"Atrocities and unheard-of violence against them have become a regular occurrence. Manipur has been burning for 21 months, but there is no accountability at the topmost echelons of power," Kharge said.

Disapproval for marriage does not amount to abetment of suicide: SC

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @New Delhi

EXPRESSING disapproval for marriage does not amount to abetment of suicide under section 306 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Supreme Court stated in a recent order.

A two-judge bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Satish Chandra Sharma made the observation while quashing a chargesheet against a woman who was accused of abetting the suicide of another woman allegedly in love with her son.

"We find that the acts of the appellant are too remote and indirect to constitute the offence under Section 306 (Abetment to suicide) of the IPC. There is no allegation against the appellant of a nature that the deceased was left with no alternative but to commit the unfortunate act of suicide," the bench observed.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

Pleas on cancelation of 25,000 jobs

The Supreme Court is slated to hear on Monday a batch of pleas challenging a Calcutta High Court verdict that has invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers and non-teaching staff in government and aided schools in West Bengal.

The top court, in its recent order, said even if all the evidence on record, including the chargesheet and witness statements, are taken to be correct, there is not an iota of evidence against the appellant (accused) in the instant case.

The allegations were based on disputes between the deceased and the appellant's son, who had refused to marry her. The appellant was accused of opposing the marriage and making disparaging remarks against the deceased.

The apex court also clarified that a remark such as asking the deceased to not be alive if she cannot live without marrying her lover will also not gain the status of abetment.

Govt suggests ways to treat, reuse sewage sludge

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

CONCERNED over a large quantity of sewage sludge being generated every day, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has prepared a detailed advisory for its safe disposal and reusing and to promote off-take of treated sewage slush. The advisory contains details of design and cost of solar greenhouse dryer, which is used to enhance the quality of the bio-solids from the processed slurry extracted during treatment of wastewater and faecal sludge.

The officials said that the aim is to promote safe practices in handling the sludge, achieve acceptable quality of bio-solids for safe reuse and disposal, promote responsible management of faecal or sewage sludge from treatment plants and save time for drying of the sludge.

Wastewater generation

According to the August 2022 report of Niti Aayog, estimated wastewater generation in India is approximately 39,604 Million Litres per Day (MLD) in the rural regions. However, urban centres generate 72,368 MLD wastewater and only 28 percent is treated. Another study suggests that daily faecal sludge generation in the country is 1.20 lakh tonnes.

"Large quantities of sludge are generated each day which require its safe disposal and reuse. It is, therefore, imperative to adopt appropriate economical and safe practices to move towards the larger goal to reduce and reuse for a healthy and unpolluted environment," read the draft of the advisory, formulated by the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation.

The body is the technical wing of MoHUA. It not only supports the ministry in policy formulation but also handholds states through technical advice, scrutiny and appraisal of schemes and propagation of new technologies in the field of water supply and sanitation.

According to the August 2022 report of Niti Aayog, Urban Wastewater Scenario in India, estimated wastewater generation in India is approximately 39,604 Million Litres per Day (MLD) in the rural regions. However, urban centres generate 72,368 MLD wastewater and only 28 percent is treated. Another study suggests that daily faecal sludge generation in the country is 1.20 lakh tonnes.

The advisory is divided into nine chapters on the need for drying of sludge to make it suitable for its reuse, popular sludge dewatering techniques, techniques for elimination of pathogenic micro-organisms from the sludge, and working principles of SGHD such as their operation and maintenance.

The advisory is expected to assist in wide utilisation of biosolids in agricultural farms as a soil conditioner.

HOLY DIP

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday took a holy dip in the Sangam at Maha Kumbh. Yadav reached in the afternoon and took the holy dip, the party said. "I got the opportunity to take 11 dips in the Sangam," he told reporters

1 HELD FOR ATTEMPTING TO RUN OVER COP IN SURAT

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	31	14	Mumbai	33	18
Bhopal	28	10	Panaji	30	22
Jaipur	26	09	Patna	22	10
Amritsar	21	05	Lucknow	24	08
Chennai	30	22	Port Blair	30	25
Kolkata	26	15	Imphal	25	06
Srinagar	8	-5	Chandigarh	24	06

■ Change in status needed for self-esteem, says DyCM ■ ULFA, other extremist groups had called for boycott of R-Day

Demand for statehood a legitimate right: J&K govt

On this R-Day, we appeal to central government that it should hear the voices of J&K people and restore statehood to J&K. The restoration of statehood will... open the doors for evelopment"

Surinder Choudhary, J&K DyCM

Flag unfurled

It was after six years that a political government unfurled tricolour on the Republic Day in Jammu and Kashmir. In the primary function at Maulana Azad Stadium Jammu, Lt Guv Manoj Sinha unfurled the tricolour.

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Omar Abdullah government on Sunday demanded the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that special status is a legitimate right of the people and that if other states can have this status, why not J&K?

The real power in a democracy lies in the voice of the masses, and "our constitution guarantees that every citizen has the right to raise voice for his rights," Deputy CM Surinder Choudhary said in his Republic Day address at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar.

"The downgrading of J&K State into a Union Territory on August 5, 2019, for whatever reason this decision was taken, has created a deep pain and dissatisfaction among the people. The statehood was not only to safeguard property but also for self-confidence and self-esteem of J&K people," he added.

It was after six years that a political government unfurled tricolour on the Republic Day in J&K. In the primary function at Maulana Azad Stadium Jammu, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha unfurled the tricolour.

The DyCM said J&K people genuinely demand that their rights and statehood be restored. The Cabinet has already passed a resolution on statehood.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reiterated commitment to the restoration of statehood to J&K, and we urge the central government to restore the statehood at the earliest".

"On this R-Day, we appeal to central government that it should hear the voices of J&K people and restore statehood to J&K. The restoration of statehood will not only restore self-confidence and self-esteem of the local population but also open the doors for development and progress," he said.

The DyCM also pledged that the Omar government would fulfill all the promises made by the National Conference. "Whatever our government has made, the promises will be fulfilled one by one," he said.

Later, talking to reporters after paying tributes to fallen soldiers at Balidan Stambh in Srinagar, DyCM demanded special status for J&K, saying it was a legitimate right. "Many states in India have special status and if other states can have it, why not J&K? he asserted.

People in NE defy boycott call, celebrate Republic Day

Dibrugarh will have an Assembly complex by 2027 and will be Assam's second capital. Tezpur will emerge as the cultural capital and will house a Raj Bhawan. Silchar will house a mini secretariat

Himanta Biswa Sarma, Assam CM

'Blast' at parking lot

A loud explosion was heard at a truck parking lot on the outskirts of Guwahati. The Paresh Baruah faction of insurgent group ULFA sent an email to the media, claiming responsibility for "blasts" at two places in Guwahati. No one was hurt as per the reports

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

BRAVING a boycott call given by some militant groups, people in the Northeast on Sunday went out in large numbers to celebrate the 76th Republic Day.

A loud explosion, heard at a truck parking lot in Beharbari area on the outskirts of Guwahati, and an unattended bag found lying at the interstate bus terminal nearby, triggered panic among people. However, reports of no untoward incidents were received.

The police dismissed the reports of blast. "There was a loud sound but no explosion. We are investigating it," Commissioner of Police Partha Sarathi Mahanta told this newspaper.

The Paresh Baruah faction of insurgent group United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) sent an email to the media, claiming responsibility for "blasts" at two places in Guwahati. The outfit, in its message, said it had no intention to harm anyone but it wanted to send a message to people to not participate in Independence Day and Republic Day programmes in the future.

Meanwhile, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in his speech said the government was developing infrastructure to turn Dibrugarh, Tezpur and Silchar towns into cities. "Dibrugarh will have an Assembly complex by 2027 and will be Assam's second capital. Tezpur will emerge as the cultural capital and will house a Raj Bhawan. Silchar will house a mini secretariat...," Sarma said.

His Manipur counterpart N Biren Singh hoped the celebration marked the beginning of the return of permanent peace in the ethnic violence-hit state.

"On this historic day, as we commemorate the adoption of our glorious Constitution in 1950, let us reaffirm our commitment to upholding the values and principles that define India—its unity, integrity, and vibrant spirit," Singh posted on X.

Mizoram CM Lalduhoma said, "Republic Day is a reminder of our collective commitment to democracy, equality, and progress. It's a day to reflect on how far we've come and the work still ahead in building an inclusive and just society." In his speech, Tripura Governor Indra Sena Reddy Nallu expressed happiness that the decades-old insurgency issues in the state were resolved last year.

GUWAHATI DIARY

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR

Our correspondent in Guwahati

prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

Tea garden hosps to turn Ayushman Arogya Mandirs

The Assam government has signed an MoU with tea garden managements to upgrade 354 tea garden hospitals to "Ayushman Arogya Mandirs" to provide quality healthcare to tea estate workers and their families. Earlier, 4,947 health centres in the state were upgraded. Ashok Singhal, the state's health minister, said issues like anemia, malnutrition, high maternal and neonatal mortality, hypertension, and diabetes are prevalent in these areas. Additionally, diseases such as tuberculosis, and diarrhoea remained a significant concern due to inadequate healthcare infrastructure and poor hygiene.

Edu app launched for railway professionals

The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has launched "Gyaanvaapi App", an all-in-one educational platform designed for railway professionals. It provides resources to empower users with knowledge, enhance their professional growth, and ensure they keep abreast of operational guidelines and developments. NFR General Manager Chetan Kumar Shrivastava emphasised the app's potential in transforming operational knowledge-sharing and strengthening professional capabilities. The app was developed by a senior assistant loco pilot.

Over 10k birds sighted at Pobitora sanctuary

More than 10,000 birds of 56 species were observed during the Asian Water Bird Census held at the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary recently. The census was organised by the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary authority in partnership with biodiversity organisation Aaranyak and Assam Bird Monitoring Network. A team of 23 experts carried out the census at nine waterbodies. The team included well-known naturalist and ornithologist Dr Anuwaruddin Choudhary besides bird experts, students, NGO members, and forest department officials. Some notable bird species observed were Baikal Teal, Tufted Duck, Greater White-Fronted Goose and Falcated Duck.

Minor on way to R-Day function raped in Bihar

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

A ten-year-old girl on her way to school to attend the Republic Day function on Sunday, was raped by a man in Bihar's Bhojpur district.

The girl, a fifth grade student at a government primary school under Gidha police station limits, was forcibly taken to a room, held captive and sexually assaulted by Ajay Singh.

The offender abandoned the victim wreathing in pain and escaped. The survivor managed to reach home and narrated the ordeal to her family members, who admitted her to government hospital at Ara where she is currently treatment.

Her condition deteriorated due to excessive bleeding. The girl's relative said, "We immediately informed the police about the incident. A police team visited the spot and collected evidence. What happened later is not known to us. We are here in the hospital with our child."

SDPO, Sadar, Ranjeet Kumar Singh said that the accused has been arrested. "He will be produced in a court at Ara," he said, adding that the girl's medical examination has been conducted.

Tribal artist who makes flutes gets Padma Shri, fourth from Bastar region

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

AMONG the legends of Bastar in south Chhattisgarh, Pandi Ram Mandavi, 68, is the fourth individual from the region to be honoured with the prestigious Padma Shri award.

He was bestowed with the fourth-highest civilian award for his extraordinary accomplishment in the field of wood craftsmanship and traditional musical instruments.

Mandavi, from the Gond Muria tribe, is a native of Maoist-affected Narayanpur district.

The earlier three recipients among the Padma honourees from Bastar region included Hemchand Manjhi, 70, who has been a traditional medicine practitioner for nearly 50 years, Anup Ranjan Pandey, 55, a creator of 'Bastar Band', a motley crew of musicians drawn from local tribal communities, and Ajay Mandavi, who taught his wood calligraphy art to jail inmates.

Mandavi has not just preserved the cultural heritage of Bastar for the past five decades but also given it a new identity. His distinct contribution remains in the creation of a bamboo Bastar flute popularly cited as 'Sulur'.

He is credited for taking creative activity and artwork at the national and global level through the notable embossed paintings, sculptures and other fine art craft on wooden panels.

The tribal artist was barely 12 years old when he began learning the art from his ancestors and with his passion and skill, Mandavi took the artwork and culture of Chhattisgarh's Bastar region to a newer height.

Sanitation worker unfurls tricolour in Jamtara district

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

FOR the past 25 years, only members of underprivileged sections of society have had the opportunity to unfurl the flag at Patel Chowk in Jamtara.

This tradition continued this year, as Vandana Devi, a local municipality sweeper, had the honour of hoisting the flag in front of the community.

Describing it as the best moment of her life, Vandana Devi said, "It was an honour for a sweeper like me to unfurl the flag before the people I serve. I never thought I would get this chance."

As per Rejendra Raut, the President of Patal Seve Sangh who initiated this tradition, it all began 25 years ago. On August 15, 1999, he took a rickshaw to the flag hoisting site in Jamtara. During the ride, he asked the rickshaw puller if he had ever witnessed the national festival. The puller replied that such events were not meant for the poor. Shocked by this response, Raut decided he would do something about it. With no income at the time, he started saving money and managed to collect Rs 245 by Republic Day.

It was an honour for a sweeper like me to unfurl the flag before the people I serve. I never thought I would get this chance

Vandana Devi, Local municipality sweeper

He invited the same rickshaw puller to unfurl the flag, gave him Rs 10 to buy soap, and asked him to come in clean clothes.

Raut also invited others from the community without informing them that a rickshaw puller would be hoisting the flag. On January 26, 2000, the rickshaw puller, Bunda Bauri, unfurled the flag for the first time. Since then, Raut has continued to invite individuals from underprivileged backgrounds to hoist the flag on each Independence and Republic Day.

Only teetotallers and parents of school-going children are given this opportunity on these occasions. Initially, people opposed his initiative, but over time they have come to appreciate it. Another member of Patel Seva Sangh, Pradeep Raut, informed that since this is the silver jubilee of the initiative, a woman was given an opportunity for the first time. Primary objective of this initiative is to stimulate patriotism and national sentiments.

J&K: Atropine offers hope for Rajouri illness

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

IN a major breakthrough, the doctors at GMC Rajouri have administered atropine to treat 11 patients who fell ill from a mysterious illness in Badhal village of J&K's Rajouri. This treatment has proven to be a game-changer, resulting in significant recovery among the patients.

No fresh case has been reported from the affected village in the past three days, suggesting that the situation may finally be under control.

Principal, GMC Rajouri, Dr Amarjeet Singh Bhatia told this newspaper that all the 11 patients admitted in the hospital are recovering. "The condition of three patients admitted in two Jammu hospitals and another patient admitted in PGI Chandigarh is also stable".

He said they are being given continuous infusion of atropine, which is used to increase heart rate and antidote for organophosphorus poison, to treat the patients.

"After use of atropine, the sudden dip in consciousness level of patients has stopped and they are recovering," he said.

Asked how they zeroed-in on atropine, Dr Bhata said, "We compared the treatments given to those patients, who died and who recovered. After comparative study, we found that doctors had given atropine to two patients in December and both had survived and recovered."

Only after the comparative study found, "we decided to give atropine to all the patients suffering from mysterious illness," he said.

Dr Bhatia said the patient namely Aijaz Ahmad, who was shifted to PGI Chandigarh few days back and whose condition is stable now, was also given atropine at the GMC Rajouri.

Rajasthan faces snakebite antivenom medicine crisis

Our research recommends the establishment of regional venom collection centres across the country

AIIMS Jodhpur

Maximum snakebites caused by Peevana

A study conducted on 210 snake bite cases showed that 105 had been bitten by Saw Scaled Viper, locally called Peevana snakes

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

RAJASTHAN is grappling with a serious snakebite crisis, as the medicines available in state hospitals are proving ineffective in neutralising the venom of desert snakes. According to a recent research, over half of the snakebite cases in the state are caused by the highly venomous Saw Scaled Viper (Echis carinatus sochureki), locally known as the Peevana snake.

A study conducted on 210 cases showed that 105 had been bitten by Echis carinatus sochureki. The study highlights the alarming finding of poor antivenom response to E. c. sochureki's bites, with significant clinical bleeding and delayed coagulopathy.

The study suggested that there is an urgent need for region-specific antivenom in Western India. The primary issue lies in the fact that the antivenom currently used in Rajasthan is produced using the venom of South Indian snakes. However, this antivenom has been found to be ineffective in nearly 70% of Peevana's bite cases.

The study highlights that desert snakes possess more potent venom than their South Indian counterparts. As a result, patients often require 5 to 10 antivenom injections, but in rural areas, even administering 150 to 200 injections has failed to counteract the venom effectively.

BJP dominates U'Khand local body elections, bags 10 of 11 corporations

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE BJP has emerged victorious in 10 out of 11 municipal corporations in Uttarakhand's local body elections.CM Pushkar Singh Dhami's strategy of "accelerating development with a triple-engine approach" has proven effective in swaying voters, analysts say.

The BJP has retained the mayoral seat in the Dehradun Municipal Corporation for the fourth consecutive time. However, the party faced setbacks in the constituencies represented by three cabinet ministers: Satpal Maharaj, Dhan Singh Rawat, and Subodh Uniyal.

The results have dealt a blow to Irrigation Minister Maharaj and Forest Minister Uniyal. In Satpuli municipality, which falls within Maharaj's assembly constituency, the Congress defeated the BJP.

In Uniyal's constituency of Narendra Nagar, the BJP faced a major setback as independent candidate Nirmala Bijalwan defeated the BJP candidate by over 6,000 votes. Bijalwan secured 9,296 votes, while BJP candidate Beena Joshi managed only 3,245 votes.

Political analyst Jai Singh Rawat said, "The accountability of Maharaj and Uniyal is greater than that of Dhan Singh Rawat, given their Congress backgrounds."

He highlighted that both leaders switched allegiance to the BJP in 2016, abandoning Harish Rawat.

BJP's Saurabh Thapliyal has won the Dehradun mayoral seat, defeating Congress's Virendra Pokhriyal by a margin of 105,295 votes. Thapliyal secured a total of241,778 votes, while Pokhriyal garnered 136,483 votes.

Meanwhile, the Congress made significant inroads by winning in the summer capital of Gairsain and several municipalities linked to the Char Dham region, catching the BJP off-guard.

Despite facing disappointment in municipal elections, the Congress has emerged victorious in Gairsain. Congress has secured the chairperson position in Gairsain Nagar Panchayat. The Congress has also claimed victory in other municipalities, including Augustyamuni, Swarnashram Jonk, Satpuli, Thalisain, Jhabreda, Bhagwanpur, Tharali, Nandangarh Ghat, Garud, Dwarahat, and Bhikiyasain.

Congress MLA from Badrinath, Lakhpat Butola, said, "This victory reflects the trust the people have placed in us, and we are committed to addressing their needs."

One
Undersea cable between Sweden and Latvia damaged

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	3	-8	SNY	Los Angeles	19	9	SNY
Colombo	31	24	LC	Melbourne	27	19	SNY
Dhaka	23	14	SNY	Moscow	-2	-4	LC
Dubai	22	15	SNY	New York	3	-3	SNY
Houston	11	16	LC	Singapore	27	19	LR
Istanbul	11	8	LC	Toronto	-1	-5	SNY
London	2	-4	SNY	Washington	8	4	LR

Trump suggests cleaning out Gaza, wants Arabs to up refugee intake

Prez: Gaza Strip is uninhabitable as everything is demolished, people are dying; it's a mess

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

PRESIDENT Donald Trump said he would like to see Jordan, Egypt and other Arab nations increase the number of Palestinian refugees they are accepting from the Gaza Strip, potentially moving out enough of the population to "just clean out" the war-torn area to create a virtual clean slate.

During a 20-minute question-and-answer session Saturday with reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump said he had call earlier in the day with King Abdullah II of Jordan and would speak on Sunday with President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi of Egypt.

"I'd like Egypt to take people, and I'd like Jordan to take people," Trump said. "You're talking about probably a million and a half people, we just clean out that whole thing," he said. Trump has built his political career around being unapologetically pro-Israel.

Trump said he complimented Jordan for having successfully accepted Palestinian refugees and that he told the king, "I'd love for you to take on more, cause I'm looking at the whole Gaza Strip right now, and it's a mess. It's a real mess."

Such a drastic displacement of people would openly contradict Palestinian identity and deep connection to Gaza. Still, Trump said the part of the world that encompasses Gaza, has "had many, many conflicts" over centuries. He said resettling "could be temporary or long term."

"Something has to happen," Trump said. "But it's literally a demolition site right now. Almost everything's demolished, and people are dying there." He added: "So, I'd rather get involved with some of the Arab nations, and build housing in a different location, where they can maybe live in peace for a change." But Jordan's foreign minister, Ayman Safadi, told reporters that his country's rejection of the proposed transfer of Palestinians was "firm and unwavering."

Sen Lindsay Graham, a Trump ally, was asked on *CNN*'s "State of the Union" about what Trump meant with his remark about Palestinians. "You know, I really don't know," said Graham. "The idea that all the Palestinians are going to leave and go somewhere else, I don't see that to be overly practical," Graham said.

He added, though, that Trump should keep talking to Mideast leaders, including Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and officials in the UAE and Egypt. "I don't know what he's talking about. But go talk to MBS, go talk to UAE, go talk to Egypt," Graham said. "What is their plan for the Palestinians? Do they want them all to leave?" Trump has offered nontraditional views on the future of Gaza in the past. He suggested after he was inaugurated on Monday that Gaza has "really got to be rebuilt in a different way." The new president added then, "Gaza is interesting. It's a phenomenal location, on the sea. The best weather ... like, some beautiful things could be done with it, but it's very interesting." *AP*

Displaced Palestinians wait along the Salah al-Din road in Nuseirat to cross to the northern part of the Gaza Strip on Sunday | AFP

Israel accuses Hamas of violating ceasefire

Israel kept thousands of Palestinians from returning to their homes in northern Gaza on Sunday as it accused Hamas of violating ceasefire by changing the order of hostages it has released. Local health officials said Israeli forces fired on the crowd, killing two people and wounding nine. Israeli forces fired on the crowds on three occasions overnight

Trump lifts embargo on bombs to Israel

Trump said he has ended his predecessor's hold on sending 2,000-pound bombs to Israel. That lifts a pressure point meant to reduce civilian casualties during Israel's war with Hamas in Gaza, which is now halted by a tenuous ceasefire. "We released them today," Trump said of the bombs. "They've been waiting for them for a long time"

EU calls Belarus election sham, threatens sanctions

BRUSSELS

THE European Union rejected the election in Belarus on Sunday as illegitimate and threatened new sanctions.

Belarus held an orchestrated vote virtually guaranteed to give 70-year-old autocratic President Alexander Lukashenko yet another term on top of his three decades in power.

"Today's sham election in Belarus has been neither free, nor fair," EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas and EU enlargement commissioner Marta Kos said in a joint statement.

"The relentless and unprecedented repression of human rights, restrictions to political participation and access to independent media in Belarus, have deprived the electoral process of any legitimacy," Kallas and Kos said.

They urged the Belarusian government to release political prisoners, estimating their number at more than 1,000, including an employee of the EU delegation in Belarus' capital, Minsk.

Kallas and Kos said that the decision to invite observers from the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe only 10 days ago prevented the group from monitoring the full electoral process.

"For these reasons, as well as the involvement of the Belarusian regime in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and its hybrid attacks against its neighbours, the EU will continue imposing restrictive and targeted measures" against the Belarusian government, the EU officials said.

They didn't elaborate on what eventual new sanctions would target, or provide a time frame.

Kallas and some EU foreign ministers are expected to meet Belarusian opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya on Sunday night in Brussels for an informal, closed-door dinner.

The Moscow ally said he did not care if the EU recognised the vote or not, and said he had "no regrets" over letting his "older brother" Vladimir Putin invade Ukraine through Belarus in 2022. *AP/AFP*

Alexander Lukashenko

ASIA MATTERS

IMMIGRATION ARRIVAL CARDS TO BE DIGITAL

Thailand's immigration is set to begin enforcing a digital arrival card for all visitors to the kingdom with foreign passports from May 1, *The Straits Times* reported. Those arriving in Thailand via air, land and sea ports must fill in the TM6 form, which also includes a departure card. There will be no charge for submitting the digital form, which will replace the currently suspended paper card. Use of the online form is expected to help track tourists during their stay, Tourism Ministry chief Natthriya Thaweevong said. TM6 immigration forms were temporarily suspended by the Cabinet.

REGULATOR REPORTS DATA OF 3,300 LEAKED

A "technical issue" with the IT system used by the Council for Estate Agencies (CEA) has resulted in the data leak of personal data belonging to more than 3,300 individuals. A spokesperson for the industry regulator told *CNA* on Jan 26 that the technical issue with its IT system was discovered at about 11.21am on Jan 22.The leaked information, comprising 3,320 names and National Registration Identity Card numbers, was sent to 18 unintended recipients the night before, CEA said. No contact information such as phone numbers were disclosed, CEA stressed.

Nigeria: 18 burnt beyond recognition in tanker blast

ABUJA

AT least 18 people died and 10 others were injured in southern Nigeria after a gasoline tanker exploded, officials said.

The accident happened along the Enugu-Onitsha expressway in the southeastern state of Enugu after the tanker, laden with gasoline, lost control and rammed into 17 vehicles, and burst into flames, Nigeria's Federal Road Safety Corps said in a statement.

Those who died were "burnt beyond recognition," the spokesperson of the safety corps rescue teams, Olusegun Ogungbemide, said. Besides the 10 injured, rescuers extracted three others who were unharmed.

With the absence of an efficient railway system to transport cargo, fatal truck accidents are common along most major roads in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country.

Earlier this month, 98 people were killed in a gasoline tanker blast in north-central Nigeria, near the Suleja area of Niger state, after individuals attempted to transfer gasoline from a crashed oil tanker into another truck using a generator. Some bystanders were at the scene to scoop gasoline. Authorities then began a nationwide campaign against the scooping of gasoline from fallen tankers and other practices that could lead to death.

"Gasoline tanker accidents do not have to lead to the loss of lives," Lanre Issa-Onilu, director-general of the National Orientation Agency, the body tasked with communicating government policy, said at an event close to the Suleja area on Saturday.

The prices of gasoline have soared. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Iran's foreign minister meets Taliban in Kabul

Top Taliban officials met Iran's foreign minister on Sunday to discuss tensions along their shared border, the treatment of Afghan refugees in Iran and water rights. It was Iran's foreign minister first visit to the Afghan capital since 2017. Foreign Minister Abbas Aragchi said Iran was committed to the return of some 3.5 million Afghan refugees and had no intention of interfering in its neighbor's domestic politics, according to a statement from the Afghan government.

North Korea says it tested cruise missile system

North Korea said Sunday it tested a cruise missile system, its third known weapons display this year, and vowed "the toughest" response to what it called the escalation of US-South Korean military drills that target the North. The moves suggested North Korea will likely maintain its run of weapons tests and its confrontational stance against the U.S. for now, even though President Donald Trump said he intends to reach out to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client, intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its present owner Sri. R. Kumar Yadav. The owner represented that he has lost/misplaced the **Original documents** i.e., 1) Sale deed dt 15/1/81, doc No.3679/80-81, 2) Sale deed dt 25/5/12 doc No.539/12-13, 3) Sale deed dt 02/12/17, doc No.1336/17-18, 4) Sale Agreement dt 06/10/16, doc No.9128/16-17, 5) Cancellation deed dt 27/4/17, doc No.1335/17-18, 6) MODT dt 9/11/12, doc No.2727/12-13, 7) Receipt Shara dt 27/4/17, doc No.1170/17-18, 8) Khata in the name of Mrs.Nagarathna, Mrs.Iqbalunnissa, and Mrs.Shanthi, when he visited the Bank on 27/07/2017, hence he lodged a Police Complaint/Revised Complaint at Banasawadi Police Station, further he represented that he has not created any charge/s and the same is free of all encumbrances/liens etc. Any person/s whomsoever having any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof or could trace the original documents above, should write or contact to the undersigned within **Fifteen (15) days** of issuance of this public notice with all documents/documentary proof on which they are basing their rights with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable residential property being Site No.38, Old No.119. situated at Shivaji Road, Shivajinagar, 4th Cross, PID No.78-75-38, Now within the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.78, Bangalore, measuring East to West 16 ft and North to South 21 ft in all measuring 336 sq.ft and bounded on ; East by: Private Property; West by : Municipal Lane; North by: Private Property; South by: 4th Cross Shivaji Raod:

LEELAVATHI .D, ADVOCATE,
473, 1st Main Road, HMT Layout,
Opp to Smart Point, Anandanagar,
Bangalore-560024. Mobile No.9886147141
Date : 24.01.2025

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.752/2024
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, J.C. Road, Bangalore. ...Applicant
Versus
Sri Charanjeet Singh ...Defendants
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendants

Sri Charanjeet Singh S/o. Mr. Karnail Singh, Aged about 44 years, R/at No. 1004, Tenth Floor,Tivoli,Khatha No. 120, Fouth Block Seegehalli Grama Panchayat, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East - 560 049. Also at : No. 1004, Tenth Floor Tivoli, Khatha No. 120, Fouth Block,Seegehalli Grama Panchayat, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East - 560 049.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.2,15,27,985/-** (Rupees Two Crore Fifteen Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Five Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **06.05.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **16.12.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **Mr. Ganesh N** and his wife **Mrs. Mamatha** both are residing at # 1045, Vinayaka Layout, Kaverinagar, 4th Cross, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560048.

Our client **Mrs. Mamatha** is the absolute owner schedule property acquired through a Registered Gift deed bearing Doc. No. 8636/2023-24.

Our client has lost Original Registered Sale deed bearing **Doc.No. 16620/2006-07** dated 18.08.2006 registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar K.R. Puram, in respect of the Property bearing Site No.22, BBMP Khatha No.468, Old Khatha No.22/29, measuring East to West 37.5 Feet and North to South 37.5 Feet, in all measuring 1406 Square Feet, along with house. Situated at Kaveri Nagara Main Road, Hoodi Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded On:

East by : 20 Feet wide Road,
West by : Site No. 23,
North by : 15 Feet Wide Road,
South by : Site No. 24.

While in their custody. The said property is in possession of **Mrs. Mamatha** and is absolutely free from any encumbrance whatsoever.

My Client had lost the above mentioned Sale deed & Inspite of several efforts the Original Sale deed has not found and she has lodged the police complaint through online dated 24.01.2025 Lost Report No. 1444967/2025.

If any person found or anyone having any claim or interest over the said property, he/she is requested to forward their claims along with the relevant documents to us within 07 days of this public notice. If we do not receive any claim from any person within 07 days. It will be strictly presumed that this property is absolutely free from any claim or encumbrance and no one has any claim over this property and if any One found the above deed kindly contact below mentioned.

PREMA B DUBALE
FFD VI, 4th Floor, Sampoorna Chambers, Vasavi Temple Road, V.V. Puram, Bengaluru-560004. 080-42053588 / 080-42296969

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General public that my client The Pavagada Souharda Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd, Branch office #31, 2nd cross, 8th main, 2nd block, Jayanagar, Bangalore 560 011 intends to offer Loan to the schedule property with building for its owner Sri. Rohith Jayaram S/o S. Jayaraman and entered into transaction commitment whereas the original previous sale deed dated 01-04-2006 vides NO.JAU-1-00001/2006-07, stored in CD NO.JAYD68, registered before sub registrar jayanagar, which is purchased by sri. Manjunath Gopal from Sri S Jayaram and smt Suguna which was taken in 2 sets out of this one duplicate deed is missing/misplaced or lost, if any persons having any claims, legal rights or any sort of obligation or litigations/claims may contact the below address with sufficient documents within 15 days from the date of publication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that peace and parcel of house property bearing **No.33/A**, 33/A101/1 (Compressed in 101, New 101/1, old Corporation No.33/A, 20th 'A' Main Road, Venkateshwara Layout, Jaibheemanagara, Madivala, Bangalore BBMP Katha PID No.65-36-33A, BBMP Ward No.172, measuring East to west:60 feet and North to south:35 feet totally measuring 2100 **Sq.feet**, having Constructed of RCC roofed house thereon **New BBMP EPID No.** 6023119919 issued by BBMP for constructed of house and bounded as follows, ON THE

EAST BY : Road;
WEST BY : Private Property;
NORTH BY : Property No.33;
SOUTH BY : Property No.34:

The Pavagada Souharda Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd, Branch office #31, 2nd cross, 8th Main, 2nd block, Jayanagar, B'lore 011, Ph. 8970030070, and also its advocate

Mr. Prabhakar Reddy A.L, Advocate.
No.35, 3rd Cross, Doddamma Layout, Hulimavu, BG Road, B'lore-76
(M) 9538877242.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
(SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT No.1)
BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION
VIDE COURT ORDER DATED: 17/01/2025]

CMP No. 230/2023
(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

PETITIONER/S : KAVANA M JAGADISH
V/s
RESPONDENT/S : M/s. IMPERIUM CONSTRUCTIONS PVT. LTD, REP BY ITS DIRECTOR SYED NAMUL HASSAN SALEH
RESPONDENT No.1 :
M/s IMPERIUM CONSTRUCTIONS PVT. LTD. A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956, REGISTERED OFFICE @ #18, CUNNINGHAM ROAD, BENGALURU-560052. REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR SYED NAJMUL HASSAN SALEH
...RESPONDENT/S

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed the above CMP on this Court Under Section 11(6) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. 1996 as in the copy of the petition annexed hereunto.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law to act for you, in this matter **on 21/02/2025 at 10:30 A.M** in case you intend to contest the appeal. If you fail to appear, the appeal will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 17th day of January 2025.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
I/c ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.1476/2023
CITY UNION BANK, Ramnagara ...Applicant
Versus
M/s. ASK Tahura Spices and Others ...Defendants
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendants

1. M/s. ASK Tahura Spices, Represented by it's Proprietor Muqeeb Ur Rahaman, Shop No. 3, JM Trust Building, Kanakapura - 562117, Karnataka

2. Mr. Muqeeb Ur Rhaman, S/o. Abdul Razak, R/at No. 19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar.

3. Mrs. Sameera Kousar, W/o. Muqeeb Ur Rahaman, R/at No. 19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar.

4. Mr. Shujath Hussian, S/o. ABdul Razak, R/at No. 19, Muslim Block, Old Police Station Road, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar District.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.27,38,870/-** (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Thiry Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **05.03.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **28.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my Client **Mr. Mahaboob Basha** is intending to enter into an agreement of sale with Mr. Narayanaswamy .C, toward the property which is morefully described in the schedule hereunder and referred to as the schedule property, if anybody is having any right, title, & interest over the schedule property, they may approach the undersigned advocate with the documentary proof to established their claim within **FIFTEEN DAYS** from the date of this publication, failing which my client will proceed to enter into the sale agreement to purchase of the same from the Landlord, later on any right that may arises will be waived off and it shall not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal New No: 6, Old No:-6,1/9, Old House site No: 6-1/9,1/10, Previous Corporation No: 6, Old No: 35, BBMP PID No: 64-208-6, situated at 2nd Main Rd, Narayanappa Garden, Gurappanapalya, Bangalore South, Measuring East to West: 30 feet & North to South 45 feet, in all total 1350 Sfts together with building consisting Stilt Flr, G.F, F.F, S.F & T.F all together with 4750 Sqft Building thereon, together with all rights, appurtenances, whatsoever underneath and above the surface thereon. Bounded on the:

East by: Property belongs to Mr. Muniyappa, **West by :** Property belongs to Mr. Bangappa, **North by:** 20 ft Road, **South by :** Pvt Property.

Mohamed Inayathlla
High Court Advocate
No: 302, 2nd Floor, Mak Enclave
Appt. 9th C Main Rd. BTM 1st Stage,
BTM Layout, Bangalore-560 029.
Cell: 9845443014
Date: 25.01.2025

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.725/2024
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, J.C. Road, Bangalore. ...Applicant
Versus
Smt.Vijaya M. & Another ...Defendants
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant No. 2

Sri Manjunatha S/o. Munirajanna, Aged about 44 years, R/at No. 160, Katha No. 48/160, Property No. 48, Lakshmi Sagara Layout, Mahadevapura Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Ward No. 82, Bangalore - 560 048.

Also at : No. 120, 3rd Main Road, Lakshmi Sagara Layout, Whitefield Road, Mahadevapura, Bangalore - 560 048.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.30,37,018/-** (Rupees Thirty Lakhs Thrity Seven Thousand Eighteen Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **28.04.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **13.12.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.577/2024
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, J.C. Road, Bangalore. ...Applicant
Versus
Smt. Seema Revankar ...Defendant
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant

Smt. Seema Revankar D/o. Krishnanand R., aged about 38 years, R/at No. 1210, 1st Floor, Anjanapura, 11th Block, Bangalore - 560 062.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.46,31,857/-** (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Seven Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **24.04.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **28.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.580/2024
CANARA BANK, Girinagar Branch ...Applicant
Versus
Sri Sendhil Elumalai ...Defendants
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant

Sri Sendhil Elumalai S/o. Elumalai Govindaraj, aged about 39 years, R/at No. 10, 2nd Street, Shivam Chetty Garden, Near Shree Complex, Bangalore - 560 042.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.2,23,24,514/-** (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Three Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Five Hundred and Fourteen Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **24.04.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **28.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public are hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its Owner SMT.LALITHA MOHAN W/o late Dr. N.T. Mohan, residing in the Schedule Property. The Owner represents that, she had misplaced/lost the original (i) Allotment Letter bearing No.609/VII JN/67-68 dated 28/11/1967 issued by CITB to Dr.N.T.Mohan; (ii) Memo bearing No.PR147/68-69 dated 20/08/1968 issued by CITB to Dr. N.T. Mohan and other related documents of the Schedule Property and she had lodged a police complaint on 24/01/2025 vide Lost Report No.1445447/2025, with the Bengaluru City Police. Further the Owner represents that she has not deposited or otherwise handed over the said original Allotment Letter, Memo and other related documents to any person/s or Bank or institution and that the Owner has a freehold subsisting marketable title to the Schedule Property.

Apart from the said Owner, if any person has any manner of claim, right, title, interest or demand of any nature in or over the Schedule Property or any person/s having custody of the said Allotment Letter, Memo and other related documents, they are hereby called upon to hand over the same or file their objections along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying, with the undersigned **within 7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.23 (CITB/BDA Site No.609), E.P.I.D. No.7121242093 (PID No.59-107-23), measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 60 ft, in all measuring 2400 Sq.ft, with a building thereon, situated at 10 th Cross Road, WKP Road, 7 th Block Jayanagar, Bengaluru, within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.166 and bounded as follows:

East by : Property bearing No.608
West by : Property bearing No.610
North by : Road
South by : Property bearing No.614

Sd/- **BAYYA REDDY. M**
For **ISHA LAW CHAMBERS LLP**
Advocates & Solicitors
No.101, 2 nd Floor, Sri Manjunatha Complex, BSK 2nd Stage,
Opp : Banashankari BDA Complex,
Bengaluru-560070

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.578/2024
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, J.C. Road, Bangalore. ...Applicant
Versus
Sri Abhishek Deshmukh ...Defendant
SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant

1. Sri Abhishek Deshmukh S/o. Sri Ashim Bikash Deshmukh,Flat No. W2-B-903, 9th Floor, 'B' Block, 'Vasathi Avante ', Rachenahalli Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru - 560 045.

Also at : 4th Floor, PWD Road, 'A' Narayanapura, 1st Main, 6th Cross, Akash Nagar, Bengaluru- 560 016.

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.81,45,079/-** (Rupees Eighty One Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Seventy Nine Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **24.04.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **28.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED ELCOT
(ELCOT) CHENNAI – 600035.
TENDER NOTICE

ELCOT invites bids for the following tender

Tender No.	**ELCOT/Proc/OT/33915 / SECNET/ 2024-25**
Tender Details	AMC for the Servers, Network devices and its accessories commissioned at SECNET Control Room with Manpower support at Secretariat, Chennai
Pre- Bid Meeting	03.02.2025 @ 11.00 AM
Tender Submission Due date and Time	19.02.2025 @ 03.00 PM
Tender Opening Date & Time	19.02.2025 @ 04.00 PM
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.4,00,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Only)
e-Portal Charges	Rs.11,800/- (including GST)

The Bidders may download the tender documents, help documents and user manuals from **https://tntenders.gov.in**

SD/-
GENERAL MANAGER (PROC)
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
692, II Floor, M.H.U. Complex, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035
e-mail: md@elcot.in URL: www.elcot.in

DIPR/301/Tender/2025

Your Guide to Spicy living
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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Why H-1B visa matters to students, workers

As Indians are the biggest beneficiaries of H-1B visas, the new rules will help enhance flexibility for employees

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

EVER since the announcement of the H-1B visa reform programme, foreign talent, especially Indians studying or working in the US have been concerned about uncertainties, and with US President Donald Trump's executive order on birthright citizenship, concerns are now growing among visa holders.

Who can apply for H-1B visa?

Through this programme, US employers can hire foreign workers in specialty occupations. According to US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the specific duties of the offered position are so specialised, complex or unique that the knowledge required to perform them is associated with the attainment of a US bachelor's or higher degree.

"One thing is certain, the recent H-1B visa reforms will make a significant impact on how foreign talent, particularly from India, will navigate the US job market. The new rules are designed to streamline the application process and enhance flexibility for employers. This means that companies can now more easily retain skilled workers who are crucial for their growth and innovation," says Somdutta Singh, Founder and CEO Assiduus and Investor with Karma Holdings.

Interestingly, Indians are the biggest beneficiaries of this visa programme, and top Indian IT firms heavily rely on H-1B visas. According to USCIS, Amazon is the top beneficiary with 9,265 visas, followed by Infosys with 8,140 visas for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. Out of the total 1.3

lakh visas issued, close to 24,766 visas were issued to Indian-origin firms. With a new registration process that has been put in place, experts believe it will improve the transition process for F-1 visa holders (US student visa) moving to H-1B status. About 85,000 (65,000+ 20,000 additional visas) H-1B visas are issued each year. Apart from a base filing fee of $460 for H-1B petitions, employers also pay anti-fraud fees and premium processing fees, among others. Usually, H-1B status is valid up to 3 years and also extendable up to another 3 years. A H-1B visa holder can work till six years.

After six years, the employer can submit again a petition with a request to extend one's status. Also, the proposed changes in the new programme can raise the minimum salary requirement of visa holders from $60,000 to over $1,20,000.

"With automatic cap-gap extensions, students will no longer face the anxiety of losing their lawful status while waiting for their applications to be processed. This is a game-changer for many international students who aspire to build their careers in the US. Moreover, the revisions to what constitutes a "specialty occupation" are noteworthy. The updated criteria ensure that there's a clear connection between job duties and required degrees, making it easier for both employers and applicants to understand eligibility. This clarity is essential in preventing confusion and ensuring that qualified candidates can secure positions that match their skills," adds Singh. For entrepreneurs, those who own a majority stake in their companies can now self-petition for H-1B visas under stricter conditions, allowing them to pursue their business ventures more freely. "With the Trump administration's policies, particularly regarding H-1B visa regulations, the global talent landscape has shifted notably," says Dhriti Prasanna Mahanta, VP, TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship.

IN CONVERSATION

PRATIP MAZUMDER
Country Manager for India at inDrive

'inDrive's target isn't market share, it is profitable growth'

PRATIP Mazumder, Country Manager for India at inDrive, spoke with TNIE's **Rakesh Kumar** about the company's vision for 2025 and its strategy to get a strong foothold in the competitive ride-hailing market. **Excerpts:**

Where is inDrive positioned in India, and how do you plan to carve out a space in India?

We are proud to say that inDrive is the second most downloaded ride-hailing app globally, after Uber. We have a strong presence in 46 countries and 749 cities. We're also market leaders in several South American countries, including neighbouring nations like Pakistan, as well as other parts of South Asia. Additionally, we are seeing rapid growth in the Philippines and other countries across the Asia Pacific region. The ride-hailing market in India is unlike any other. The scale here is massive — we are talking about a market with 13-15 million daily trips. Given the size of the market, there will always be multiple players. The opportunity is so big that even a small share can be incredibly valuable, often surpassing what might be considered leadership in smaller countries. This is why everyone is eager to enter the Indian market.

What sets inDrive apart from other ride-hailing apps?

When you take a ride with any other app and talk to the driver, you will often find them frustrated with their earnings. They don't always understand how payouts work, and the lack of transparency leaves them feeling disconnected. On the passenger side, there is also a lack of clarity — passengers don't always know if they are being charged fairly. This is where inDrive truly differentiates itself. We solve both of these problems. For drivers, we provide complete transparency. The payment structure is simple: a 100-rupee fare minus a 10-rupee fee — it's clear and straightforward. We only take a 10% commission, which is much lower than the 25-35% range other companies charge. But it doesn't stop there. We also offer transparency for passengers. They can bid for their ride and choose the amount they're willing to pay, making the process more transparent and customisable.

Our objective is twofold: growth and profitability. Our customer acquisition cost has decreased by 25% y-o-y, even as we grew by 18% over the same period.

In terms of profitability, how is inDrive placed in India?

Globally, inDrive is a profitable organisation. In India, we are not yet profitable, but we are far from bleeding money like many other ride-hailing companies. The key difference is that our burn rate is significantly lower. If a company takes ₹30 but spends ₹80 in the process, there's little value in that. On the other hand, by taking just ₹10 and spending only ₹8, we can still generate a profit, even at a smaller scale. Our objective is twofold: growth and profitability. Our customer acquisition cost has decreased by 25% year-on-year, even as we grew by 18% over the same period.

What's your target market share in India?

My target isn't market share; it's profitable growth. If the market size is $10 today and we are $1, and tomorrow the market grows to $15 and we become $1.5, our market share remains 10%, but we've grown 50%. Market share is a relative number. I focus on growing profitably, not just expanding our market share.

Rapido has grown very fast in the past year, while inDrive hasn't. What's the reason?

There will always be new entrants in the market, and while Rapido has gained attention, let's not forget about other players like Blue Smart, who are also emerging. The key factor here is customer acquisition cost. The more you invest in advertising, the more people become aware of your service, and the more users you acquire. But this comes at a significant cost. Rapido has had impressive growth, no doubt, and they raised around $300 million last year. With that kind of funding, they can afford to scale quickly. But at the same time, India's ride-hailing market is so large that no one player's success should be seen as a threat. There is still plenty of opportunity for everyone.

MONEY-WISE

HOW TO USE YOUR EMERGENCY FUND?

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM
writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

SUBRA has ₹1 lakh of emergency fund. Should Subra use that money to invest in ELSS to save some Income tax? – Reader's Question.

I asked her – how much is your monthly expenses? She said – ₹50,000 but could go up to ₹70,000. How much time did it take to build this ₹1 lakh as emergency fund?

She said -about 8 months.

This is what I told her: You need about ₹4-6 lakh as emergency fund because you have young children and ageing parents to support. Right now, you have only ₹1 lakh and you have struggled reaching here. Also, using Emergency fund for investing or even paying Income tax is not the best way to handle money! Paying taxes is better than investing in ELSS especially for you.

I would suggest you to start a SIP in an ELSS fund for ₹4,000 and a RD in a bank for ₹5,000. At the end of the year, you would have invested ₹48000 in ELSS and have a further ₹60,000 in your emergency kitty. Your Emergency Fund should primarily be used for unexpected and urgent expenses for you or your parents that could impact you if not addressed promptly. Here are some specific scenarios where using your emergency fund would be appropriate:

- Medical emergencies: Sudden health issues or accidents that require immediate medical attention, especially if your insurance does not cover all costs or if you need to pay upfront. If your medical insurance is not cashless, you should charge it on your credit card. On the due date, use your emergency fund.
- Job loss: If you're unexpectedly laid off or lose your job, the emergency fund can help cover living expenses while you search for new employment.
- Urgent home repairs: Emergencies like a refrigerator breakdown, or some major plumbing work, or electric work – has to be done, can be funded using EF .
- Car repairs: Essential repairs if your vehicle breaks down unexpectedly, and you rely on it for work travel.
- Unforeseen travel: If you need to travel unexpectedly due to a family emergency or other critical situations. Of course, your credit card is what you will use, but on the due date you may have to use your emergency fund!
- Legal expenses: If you suddenly face legal issues that require immediate action or payment for legal fees. This is not very common, but if something were to come up, you will have to turn to EF for funding!

Expenses should meet the following criteria:

- Unexpected: You did not anticipate them in your regular budgeting.
- Urgent: They require immediate attention or payment.
- Necessary: The expense is critical for maintaining your or your family's well-being or financial stability.

It's also important not to dip into your emergency fund for non-emergencies or discretionary spending like vacations, electronics upgrades, paying income- tax or non-urgent home improvements. Replenishing the fund after use should be a priority once the emergency has passed.

MONEY MATTERS

WHY GENERATE AN INVESTMENT RULEBOOK

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

INDIA completed 75 years of being a Republic on Sunday. It was no mean achievement for a country that pundits predicted would fail in the 40s and 50s. All stakeholders must follow the Constitution as a guidebook regardless of political ideology. Despite multiple differences, there is a relative public consensus that we have to function as a democracy and follow the laws in the written Constitution.

Imagine your life as a chaotic place like India in 1947. There are problems galore. Unlike the situation then, the risks to your life are low. However, you know that you need to take control of it. You need to establish an order that allows you to lead an everyday life. The role of money in your life cannot be understated. The root cause of disruption in life is related to your finances. They may not aligned with your life goals. But you know your future depends on how you handle your income and expenditure. You also know that your savings and investments require a rule book you agree to without grumbling.

The reason to flag that concern as we celebrate 75 years of being a Republic is due to the churn you do with your mutual fund systematic investment plans. Almost 90% of the SIPs that power the Indian domestic investment into the stock market are withdrawn within three years. There could be several reasons for that.

First, it could be a loss of income. There is a possibility that you do not have the money to continue making that commitment any more. That could lead to the snapping of fixed commitments like SIPs every month that are meant for the future. Your state of work may look uncertain now, but it is unlikely to remain like that forever. You will find work sooner than later. The lesson to learn here is that you cannot stop investing no matter what. You can scale it down, but continue to invest. You can always step up as you regain your income. You must ensure that your commitments are manageable even if you suffer an income loss in the short term. That requires astute financial management. A professional advisor can help you with managing your finances appropriately.

The flexibility mutual funds offer today is such that there is little room for an excuse not to continue. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) published a consulting paper last week about micro SIPs like a product sachet. You can invest as little as ₹250 per SIP. The idea is to encourage people to save and invest long-term. The second reason for you to snap your SIP could be associated with your fear of loss and your perception of the risk associated with it. Regular investments into exchange-traded index funds or mutual funds are meant to beat the highs and lows in the market. The risk factor comes into the picture if you seek to time the market. If fund managers with knowledge, sophisticated data, and technology at their disposal struggle to beat the market consistently, then you are unlikely to succeed as a lone ranger without adequate knowledge.

Your rulebook for investing should involve a process to automate your monthly investments. You can break them into long-term and short-term investments. Your rule book should stall any idea of touching the money deployed in long-term investments. These could be your provident fund pension funds or SIPs for retirement or a child's education. Your money needs time to grow, like any tree that eventually bears fruit.

The power of compounding works for you if you let your money plant grow into a tree that can bear those fruits.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

'EV market share will double in 2025'

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

TATA Motors, India's largest electric car maker, remains unfazed by potential market share pressures despite major competitors - Maruti Suzuki, Mahindra & Mahindra and Hyundai - launching/unveiling their much anticipated electric vehicles (EVs) in recent times.

"The EV market is set to expand, and consumers will begin comparing products more closely. This is a positive development for us because we are confident in the strength of our offerings. We are the only company in India with 2 lakh EV customers who have collectively covered over 5 billion kilometers. This gives us a significant advantage," Vivek Srivatsa, Chief Commercial Officer of Tata Passenger Electric Mobility told TNIE. He added, "The trust we have built, the diverse customer base we serve, and the wide product range we offer - from ₹8 lakh to ₹22 lakh - are key factors in our leadership. With more EVs in the pipeline, this range will only grow. We are confident in our position and not concerned about market share." Tata Motors was the top EV seller with 61,496 units sold in 2024, compared to 60,100 in 2023. However, its market share decreased from 73% to 62%. Going forward in 2025, Tata Motors will be launching the Harrier EV in the first half of the year and the much anticipated Sierra EV in the second half. These two models will help Tata Motors to take on the new EVs launched by Mahindra & Mahindra, Hyundai's Creta Electric and Maruti Suzuki's e Vitara. Srivatsa said that with more players joining the EV space, the category as a whole will grow significantly.

"Currently, EVs make up a little over 2% of the total passenger vehicle market. We need to surpass the 5-6% mark, and once that happens, the growth will accelerate rapidly. It is possible for the EV market to double its penetration this year."

However, for the overall passenger (PV) vehicle market, he expects the growth rate to slow. "2025 is likely to be a challenging year for the PV industry. Over the past 3-4 years, the industry witnessed spectacular growth, but this year, that growth is expected to moderate, especially given the high stock levels across the network," said Srivatsa. PVs grew by 4.2% in 2024 as compared to last year, with sales of around 4.3 million units.

For Tata Motors, Srivatsa said that sales growth this year will be led by EVs and CNG-powered vehicles. He added that their recently launched coupe SUV Curvv is performing "very well". "It has a unique, differentiated design, and Indian consumers often take some time to fully appreciate innovative designs. I am confident that as the car becomes more visible on the roads, its sales will grow significantly," he said.

Dr Agarwal's IPO price band fixed at ₹382-402

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

DR Agarwal's Health Care has fixed a price band of ₹382 to ₹ 402 per equity share for its Initial Public Offering (IPO) which is around ₹3,025 crore at the upper end of the price band. The IPO of the company will open on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, for subscription and close on Friday, January 31, 2025.

The issue has an employee reservation portion of up to 1,579,399 equity shares and shareholders reservation of up to 1,129,574 equity shares. Investors can bid for a minimum of 35 equity shares and in multiples of 35 equity shares thereafter. The Issue is being made through the book-building process, wherein not more than 50% of the issue shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to qualified institutional buyers, not less than 15% and 35% of the offer shall be available for allocation to non-institutional investors, and retail individual bidders respectively, according to a release. The IPO is a mix of fresh issue of up to ₹300 crore and an offer of sale upto 6.78 crore shares by promoters, investors and other selling shareholders. The proceeds worth ₹195 crore from the fresh issuance will be utilised for repayment or prepayment in part or full of its borrowings, the remaining for acquisitions and corporate purposes. As of September 30, 2024, the company operates 193 facilities in India.

AMFI & AMII sign MoU to boost MF sectors

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) and the Asosiasi Manajer Investasi Indonesia (AMII), the Indonesian Investment Managers Association have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) where a delegation of 12 top CEOs from Indonesia's mutual fund industry accompanied the Indonesian President on his state visit to India. This partnership is aimed towards strengthening the MF sectors in both countries. The MoU will create a platform for India and Indonesia to exchange best practices, insights, and strategies aimed at boosting the MF industries. It will serve as a model for strengthening the bond between the financial sectors of emerging markets.

Commonwealth C'ships gold medallist lifter in dope net

Commonwealth Championships gold-winning weightlifter Popy Hazarika (59kg in 2023), 2024 U-20 hammer throw national champion Anshika Singh, and Senior National Open 1500m bronze medallist Sunita were among several athletes across various sports placed under provisional suspension by NADA after failing dope tests. The National Anti-Doping Agency released names of more than 30 athletes across sports in the latest list.

SINNER IS THE WINNER AGAIN

World No 1 beats Zverev in straight sets for his second Australian Open title in a row

Jannik Sinner celebrates after defeating Alexander Zverev in the men's singles final | AP

It is definitely a different feeling for sure. I know how much work I put into this one and having this one twice it's amazing

Jannik Sinner, AO Champion

ROAD TO TITLE

Rd 1: bt Nicolas Jarry (CHI) 7-6 (2), 7-6 (5), 6-1
Rd 2: bt Tristan Schoolkate (AUS) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-3
Rd 3: bt Marcos Giron (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2
Rd 4: bt Holger Rune (DEN x13) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2
QF: bt Alex de Minaur (AUS x8) 6-3, 6-2, 6-1
SF: bt Ben Shelton (USA x21) 7-6 (2), 6-2, 6-2
F: bt Alexander Zverev (GER x2) 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3

HOWARD FENDRICH @Melbourne

THERE'S all sorts of ways beyond merely the score to measure just how dominant Jannik Sinner was while outplaying and frustrating Alexander Zverev during the 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3 victory Sunday that earned the 23-year-old Italian a second consecutive Australian Open championship.

The zero break points Sinner faced. Or the 10 he accumulated. The 27-13 advantage in points that lasted at least nine strokes. Or the way Sinner accumulated more winners, 32 to 25, and fewer unforced errors, 27 to 45. The way Sinner won 10 of 13 points that ended with him at the net. Or the way he only let Zverev go 14 of 27 in that category, frequently zipping passing shots out of reach.

And here is one more bit of evidence: Listen to what Zverev told Sinner during the on-court trophy ceremony: "You're the best player in the world, by far. I was hoping that I could be more of a competitor today, but you're just too good. It's as simple as that."

That's coming from the guy who is ranked No 2 behind Sinner, who has held the No 1 spot since last June and is not showing any signs of relinquishing it. This was the first Australian Open final between the men at No 1 and No 2 since 2019, when No 1 Novak Djokovic defeated No 2 Rafael Nadal — also in straight sets.

"It's amazing," Sinner said, "to achieve these things."

That includes being the youngest man to leave Melbourne Park with the trophy two years in a row since Jim Courier in 1992-93 and the first man since Nadal at the French Open in 2005 and 2006 to follow up his first Grand Slam title by repeating as the champion at the same tournament a year later.

Since the start of 2024, Sinner has won three of the five Major tournaments, including the US Open in September, and his record in that span is 80-6 with a total of nine tournament titles. His current unbeaten run covers 21 matches.

The only thing that's clouded the past 12 months for Sinner, it seems, is a doping case in which he was cleared by a ruling that was appealed by the World Anti-Doping Agency. He tested positive for a trace amount of an anabolic steroid twice last March but blamed it on an accidental exposure involving two members of his team who have since been fired. Sinner initially was exonerated in August; a hearing in the WADA appeal is scheduled for April.

While Sinner became the eighth man in the Open era (which began in 1968) to start his career 3-0 in Grand Slam finals, Zverev is the seventh to be 0-3, adding this loss to those at the 2020 US Open and the 2024 French Open.

Those earlier setbacks both came in five sets. This contest was not that close. Not at all.

"We're trying to do all the right work," Zverev said. "I'm just not good enough."

Associated Press

RESULTS (FINAL)

Men's singles: Jannik Sinner (ITA x1) bt Alexander Zverev (GER x2) 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3; Women's doubles: Katerina Siniakova (CZE)/Taylor Townsend (USA x1) bt Hsieh Su-wei (TPE)/Jelena Ostapenko (LAT x3) 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-3.

TOP SEEDS, TOP FINISHERS

The Czech Republic's Katerina Siniakova won her 10th Grand Slam women's doubles title on Sunday when she and American partner Taylor Townsend clinched the Australian Open crown. The top seeds and reigning Wimbledon champions downed Taiwan's Hsieh Su-wei and Latvian Jelena Ostapenko 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-3 on Rod Laver Arena.

Versatile and sensible Tilak delivers on promise

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

IN the six months since India's T20 World Cup triumph at Barbados, if there was one batter who has proven to be the most versatile no matter when and where he gets a chance, it is Tilak Varma.

Whether it is ODIs or T20Is, whenever he has gotten the chance Tilak has risen to the occasion and Saturday was no different. The youngster showed maturity and stayed till the end to guide India to a thrilling win against England in the second T20I in Chennai.

After Hardik Pandya's dismissal things could have gone South easily but Tilak was keen to see through the chase. "I said (to myself) that whatever happens, I will be staying till the end, and I wanted to finish the game. I had a chat with Gautam (Gambhir) sir during the last match. I can play with a strike-rate of 6 or 7 or above 10 or below 10 also, as per the team's requirement. I know that I can adapt and be flexible. Gautam sir also said during the drinks break (here at Chennai), 'it's a time that you can show the people that you can play both types of innings'. Happy that it paid off," said Tilak after India's win.

With Ravi Bishnoi at the other end and Jos Butler shuffling his bowlers well, Tilak played sensibly, at times not taking a run in order to prevent Bishnoi from taking the strike. He wanted to ensure no wickets fell further and finish the job himself. "Actually I wanted to finish the game but you know Ravi and I were talking about Varun Chakravarthy and Arshdeep Singh as well. I told Ravi to watch the ball and play. I told him to play basically on the front foot, and try to score through the gaps and that's what he did by scoring that boundary," recollected Tilak.

Tilak Varma played a match-winning knock against England | ASHWIN PRASATH

The wicket was a bit tricky as it aided the Indian spinners first and later the visitors' seamers. "The wicket was double-paced and quite challenging. With the kind of pace (England bowlers were bowling), it will be tough to hit square of the wicket. So, I just wanted to use the pace and hit as much as I can behind (in the V behind the wicketkeeper). So, that's what I have done and it has given me success," said Tilak.

The turning point was the way Tilak countered Jofra Archer. He carted the pacer for four sixes to upset Buttler's plans. "I wanted to target their best bowler (Archer). If you take on the best bowler, other bowlers will be under pressure. So, when the wickets were falling (at the other end), I wanted to take on their best bowlers. If I do that it makes it easier (for other batters). So, I backed myself and took chances against him and also whatever shots that I have played against Archer, I have worked in the nets, mentally I was ready for them. So it has given me a good result," revealed Tilak.

Tilak has made 318 runs since he was last dismissed in T20Is, which is a new world record, overtaking 271 runs scored between two dismissals by New Zealand's Mark Chapman in 2023. He has also batted at different positions. "As I said before, I am ready to bat anywhere. I am flexible. I have played in the IPL and also the Indian team before the South Africa series. I have never batted at number 3. I think 2-3 innings, other innings at 5-6 or 4. So I know how to manage batting at 4-5-6 also.

But I like to bat at number 3, but I am really flexible. I can bat anywhere. What the team needs, I am ready for that," signed off Tilak.

WHIL: Pisal's brace helps Odisha lift title

ENS @ Chennai

"WHEN my name came up in the auction, I was slightly worried if anyone would pick me," Rutuja Pisal told this daily before the inaugural season started and she had a good reason for that. "I have mostly played for the junior teams till now. Unlike the senior team where one can watch them play on TV or mobile, it is hard to watch the junior team in action," she had said. However, on Sunday, the world watched when the 22-year-old scored two goals in the final to take Odisha Warriors over the line against Soorma Hockey Club at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Astro Turf Hockey Stadium in Ranchi.

Pisal gave Warriors the lead in the second quarter (20th minute) but Penny Squibb (28th minute) equalised for Soorma soon after. However, Pisal found the back of the net again as the game came to a close and sealed the victory for Warriors. In the second quarter, a breakthrough came out of nowhere as Victoria Sauze looked to pass into the circle but it was deflected high and Pisal was alert to loft the ball in and over Savita to give Warriors the lead. Soorma's Penny Squibb stepped up in the penalty corner to restore parity. With eight minutes left in the game, Warriors earned their first penalty corner but could not convert. Soon after, on a counterattack, Pisal picked up a loose ball to give Warriors the lead and title.

Rutuja Pisal celebrates her goal with teammates on Sunday | WHIL

Century after early slump very special: Vijay

GOMESH S @ Chennai

AS Ajith Ram took the final wicket to hand Tamil Nadu a 209-run win against Chandigarh on Sunday, Vijay Shankar had received a nice birthday gift. The all-rounder, who helped TN recover from 46/4 to 305/5 in the second innings with an unbeaten 150, celebrated his 34th birthday with a player-of-the-match performance in what was a crucial win for Tamil Nadu.

The victory going into the final round of Ranji Trophy, TN play Jharkhand in an away game next, keeps R Sai Kishore's team at the top of Group D. "It is a very very important win for us," an elated Vijay Shankar tells this daily. "This win will give us a lot of relief because you cannot take anything to the last (round), when you have things in your control and playing a home game and we have our quality spinners, it is very important for us to win games like this. I was very happy to get those runs when we were 46/4. From there to get that 150 was actually very special for me," he adds.

Vijay's unbeaten 150 — his second century of this season — is in fact his highest score in first class but the TN all-rounder is not thinking about personal milestones. While it is always good to get the big scores, for someone like Vijay, who has had to bat up and down the order based on the requirement of the team, it has always been about doing well in a given situation. "Whenever I bat, I generally don't think about all this. If you see the batting orders that I usually bat, it is literally everywhere. Sometimes it is very difficult to think about scoring 150-200 and all that because when you are playing at No 3 or No 4 consistently, most of the games you will get an opportunity to score big. But if you bat at 6, 7 and suddenly you bat 3, 5, 4 even this season, I have batted 3, 4, 5, 6, everywhere. I have always enjoyed such challenges. I am not someone who likes to go crib saying that I will only bat at this order. I have always seen myself as someone who can always stand up for the team."

From a team point of view, what keeps TN in good stead is the contribution of every player in the XI. Whether it is N Jagadeesan or Andre Siddarth, B Indrajith, Pradosh Ranjan Paul, Mohamed Ali, Vijay Shankar feels that everyone has chipped at some point or other. In the bowling department, Ajith Ram and Sai Kishore have led from the front. While this win gives them a lot of confidence, Tamil Nadu wants to continue the good show in Jamshedpur. "It's not like we did well today. Be happy. Be satisfied. We are always looking forward to getting better as a team. And the best part I feel here is, I think there is a lot of communication that is happening amongst players. There will be times where people go through difficult times. That is how this game is. But during those tough times, I feel everyone is able to communicate well. Sometimes, you get that feeling that you are not in the right place. But, if we talk well amongst players, that will give a nice feel that we will do it one day. So, when the time comes, they might chip in," Vijay Shankar signed off.

SELECT SCORES

At Thiruvananthapuram: Madhya Pradesh 160 & 369/8 decl in 101 ovs drew with Kerala 167 & 268/8 in 104 ovs (Mohammed Azharuddeen 68, Aditya Sarwate 80; Kuldeep Sen 3/64); **At Puducherry:** Andhra 303 & 319/6d in 82.4 ovs (Karan Shinde 119 n.o; Ankit Sharma 3/83) drew with Puducherry 260 & 152/0 in 46 ovs (Ganga Sridhar Raju 75 n.o, Jay Pande 59 n.o; Lalit Mohan 0/39); **At Hyderabad:** Hyderabad 565 in 168.5 ovs **bt** Himachal Pradesh 275 & 247 (Shubham Arora 66, Ankit Kalso 44; Tanay Thyagarajan 6/118, Anikethreddy 4/46); Meghalaya 198 & 294 in 92.2 ovs (JS Sachdeva 82, Sunil Roul 4/61) **lost to** Odisha 548/7 decl; **At Salem:** TN 301 & 305/5 decl. **bt** Chandigarh 204 & 193 in 50 ovs (Manan Vohra 100; Sai Kishore 4/62, Ajith Ram 4/89).

ISL: Mumbai City FC register 3-0 win at home

ENS @ Mumbai

MUMBAI City FC defeated Mohammedan SC by 3-0 at the Mumbai Football Arena in the Indian Super League (ISL) on Sunday. The Islanders scored three goals in 11 minutes to secure a home win over their opponents.

The Islanders held 69.3% of the possession on Sunday night and scored from all of the three shots that they took on target.

The Islanders spared no time in their attempt to set the tone of the game but finally found the breakthrough in the 72nd minute, and it came off an own goal by Gaurav Bora.

Mumbai City FC now have jumped to fifth place on the points table as a result of this triumph, holding 27 points from 17 games now.

Mumbai City FC play their next game against East Bengal FC on January 31, whereas Mohammedan SC will be featuring against the Mohun Bagan Super Giant on February 1.

SA20: Easy win for Super Kings against Sunrisers

ENS @ Chennai

DEVON Conway's breezy 56-ball 76 helped Joburg Super Kings beat Sunrisers Eastern Cape by nine wickets after Lutho Sipamla (3/13) and Hardus Viljoen (4/24) restricted the visiting team to 118 in the home game.

Opting to bat first at The Wanderers Stadium, Sunrisers were in for a horror start. Sipamla removed Zak Crawley on the very first ball of the match and followed it up with the wicket of Tom Abell on the final delivery of the same over. When it looked like things could not get any worse, Sipamla came back to remove Jordan Hermann in his second over. Viljoen chipped with the wicket of Aiden Markram and Sunrisers were down to 17/4. From thereon, it was an uphill task with David Bedingham (48) and Tristan Stubbs (37) taking them to 118. **Brief scores:** Sunrisers 118 in 19 ovs (Bedingham 48; Viljoen 4/24, Sipamla 3/13) lost to Super Kings 119/1 (Conway 76).

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Mbappe treble extends Real's La Liga lead

AGENCIES @ Madrid

KYLIAN Mbappe continued his rich vein of form with a hat-trick on Saturday to power Real Madrid to a 3-0 win over Valladolid and a four-point lead at the top of La Liga. Second-place Atletico Madrid drew 1-1 at home earlier against Villarreal, while Barcelona, third, trail Los Blancos by 10 points before hosting Valencia on Sunday.

Mbappe has hit his devastating best in recent weeks after struggling for consistency following his summer switch from Paris Saint-Germain. The French superstar climbed to 15 league goals for the season, trailing only Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski, on 16.

Mbappe's first Madrid treble helped his team, playing without suspended Brazil international Vinicius Junior, ease to a simple away victory against bottom side Valladolid.

The hosts made early inroads, with Madrid stopper Thibaut Courtois saving from David Torres' header, but that was about as good as it got for Valladolid. Madrid started to chip away at their opponents and made the breakthrough in the 30th minute when Jude Bellingham nudged a deflected pass through to Mbappe, who curled into the top corner.

Real Madrid's forward Kylian Mbappe celebrates scoring his team's third goal | AFP

The former PSG star has scored in each of his last five games for his new club and is looking every part the potent attacking force Madrid were hoping he would be.

Madrid were controlling the game without creating too many chances, but with Mbappe in his purple patch, he only needed one more to put the game to bed. Rodrygo Goes slipped in the forward who curled a low effort past goalkeeper Karl Hein from a similar position to his first goal in the 57th minute. Mbappe completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot in the final stages, after Mario Martin lunged into a tackle on Bellingham in the area. The Valladolid midfielder took the ball but then smashed into the England international's calf studs-up and was dismissed. Mbappe sent Hein the wrong way from the spot for his 12th goal in his last 11 games across all competitions.

Spurs boss under pressure

LONDON: Leicester pushed Tottenham boss Ange Postecoglou closer to the sack with a 2-1 win that extended the north London side's dismal run and lifted the Foxes out of the Premier League relegation zone on Sunday. Postecoglou's troubled team blew the lead on home turf as they crumbled to a sixth defeat in their last seven league games. Brentford benefitted from penalty controversy to beat Crystal Palace 2-1 at Selhurst Park. Late on Saturday, Erling Haaland inspired a Manchester City fightback from 1-0 down to beat Chelsea 3-1 and move into the top four.

EXPRESS READ

Gukesh crushes Harikrishna, among leaders now

WIJK AAN ZEE: World Champion D Gukesh grabbed the joint lead Tata Steel masters, outplaying his World Championship second P Harikrishna in the seventh round here. It was Gukesh's third victory in the event that put him on course for his maiden title here as he now shares the lead with fellow Indian R Praggnanandhaa and Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan on five points.

Jyothi clinches 60m hurdles gold with NR

NEW DELHI: Reigning Asian champion Jyothi Yarraji clinched gold in her first race of the season, that too with a national record, winning the 60m hurdles event by clocking 8.04 seconds at the Elite Indoor Meeting in Nantes, France. Yarraji broke her own earlier national record of 8.12 seconds twice in a matter of few hours on Saturday. She first clocked 8.07 seconds in the heats and then bettered her time in the final.

Boxer Nishant makes winning pro debut

NEW DELHI: Indian boxer Nishant Dev made a smashing professional debut as he beat USA's Alton Wiggins in the super-welterweight category at The Cosmopolitan in Las Vegas. In a dominating debut, Dev won the contest with a few seconds left in the first of the six-round bout via technical knockout. He knocked Wiggins down twice before the referee called for the stoppage with 20 seconds left in the first round.

Manipur capture first gold of National Games

HALDWANI: Manipur grabbed the first gold medal of the 38th National Games on Sunday as Sarungbam Athouba Meitei won the men's individual triathlon title before Maharashtra's Dolly Devidas Patil claimed the top honour in the women's corresponding event. Another Manipuri player, Telheiba Soram clinched the silver in the men's event, marking a 1-2 finish for the tiny northeastern state.

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DAY'S DIARY

Record created

Magnus Carlsen won the 75th Tata Steel Chess Tournament with a score of 10 out of 13, equaling Garry Kasparov's 1999 record win

THE TOURNAMENT

The 75th Tata Steel tournament took place in Wijkaan Zee, Netherlands in January 2013. The final game was played at the De Moriaan Centre with single round-robin competitions

CARLSEN'S STATS

Carlsen, until this event, won all events and broke various rating records mainly those of Kasparov. He is the only player who remained undefeated

VICTORY STREAK

In December 2024, Carlsen once again made waves at the World Rapid and Blitz Championships, played in New York

By the book
PG 3

PADMA PIONEERS

Eminent personalities, including violin maestro L Subramaniam, iconic actor Anant Nag and Grammy-winning musician Ricky Kej from Karnataka, have been awarded Padma Awards 2025; here's what some of them shared with *CE*

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

AS the nation geared up to celebrate Republic Day, nine notable achievers from Karnataka got the news that they would receive the Padma Awards. L Subramaniam, one of the most prominent classical musicians today, is among seven Indians set to receive the Padma Vibhushan, while actor Anant Nag, a stalwart in Kannada films is set to receive the Padma Bhushan. Three-time Grammy-winning musician Ricky Kej, folk artistes Bhimavva Shillekyatar and Venkappa Ambaji Sugatekar, eminent oncologist Vijayalakshmi Deshmane, martial artiste Hassan Raghu, one of the founders of Accel India Prashanth Prakash, and journalist A Surya Prakash, are receiving the Padma Shri awards.

Anant Nag, actor

This Padma Bhushan belongs to all of Karnataka. Three years ago, after PM Modi introduced the public participation initiative for Padma awards, there was an overwhelming response from Karnataka, with numerous nominations. When I got into theatre, I was still in college. I was selected for a main role in a play and worked in theatre for five years. At that time, my father expressed his dissatisfaction, saying, 'I sent you to Mumbai for studies, but you ended up in theatre. Be on your own and do what you want.' Back then, I took a chance. In theatre, we were all amateurs, and I spent my own pocket money to keep going.

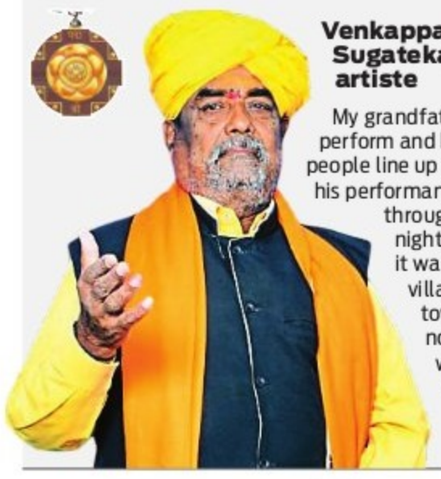
(Inputs from A Sharadhaa)

Prashanth Prakash, entrepreneur

This award is a recognition of the critical role that startups and technology sector has played in our nation building. With all humility, I accept the award on behalf of Accel India, my partners, colleagues and everyone else who has worked to nurture and strengthen India's startup ecosystem.

L Subramaniam, violinist

Getting foreign recognition is one thing but getting it in your own country, where you're born and brought up, where your soul is, is another. I am very happy that the Indian classical violin is being recognised at this level. My father, who was responsible for making the Indian violin as a solo instrument, struggled so much to realise his vision of taking the Indian violin everywhere – to major concert halls in different parts of the world – and he was able to do it through his students, and teaching me. I was told this is the first time the Padma Vibhushan is given to the Indian violin; I'm sure my father's (V Lakshminarayana) dream is coming true even after he has gone.



Venkappa Ambaji Sugatekar, folk artiste

My grandfather could perform and have 100 people line up to listen to his performance throughout the night, whether it was in a village or a town. Sadly, now, people want to wrap everything up in two to three hours.

Ricky Kej, musician

The Grammys are the biggest awards that I've won in the past, whereas the Padma Shri is extremely special and I would consider it to be the biggest honour that I've ever received, simply because it is from our country. And more importantly, it is for my career rather than a single artistic work. I look at this award not as an end goal but a new lease on my career, where I will be able to do bigger and better things and spread the message of awareness when it comes to environmental and social issues.

Hassan Raghu, martial artiste

When I found out, I was surprised and happy that martial arts – with 3,000 to 4,000 year history in India was being recognised. I learnt from my gurus and I'm continuing this tradition. I keep myself motivated because this is my duty and cannot sit without any job or mental work! A lot of my students have become great martial artistes and I'm sure, they will become stars.

Bhimavva Shillekyatar, puppeteer

I got to know I had received the award a phone call from the central government and we were all overjoyed. I started performing 'Togalu Gombeyaata' when I was just 12 years old and now I'm 96 years old – my children and my grandchildren, too, are carrying this tradition forward, telling stories from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, stories of Ambedkar, Basavanna, and Buddha.

ART FOR EMPIRE'S SAKE

Collector Sunil Baboo's recent acquisition of colour prints concerning Tipu Sultan provides an interesting history of colonised India

ANUBHAB ROY

Sunil Baboo is perhaps not a name that would ring in many nods in a room. His work being in a field – collecting antiques – that is in today's world, is overlooked and understated, being relegated from common consciousness to somewhat of a niche. Nonetheless, his most recent acquisitions, which are two colour prints concerning Tipu Sultan, are bound to turn heads; those not only of artists or art appreciators, but also historians.

Historicisation is an act where the medium in question betrays context. Naturally, most of India's history of colonisation, when extracted from the land itself, has its origin in oral narratives and written text. While the same could be said of British historicisation of colonised India, the pictorial form acts as an equally potent – and utilitarian – mode of narrative. The West's particular interest in Tipu Sultan is one of the major factors behind the aforementioned prints. In essence, amongst other elements, a history (or narrative) follows the principle of causation. The root cause of the paintings could be traced to, according to Baboo, a reputation of momentary incompetence incurred by the empire: "Tipu Sultan's defeat during the Third Anglo-Mysore War was a kind of face-saving for the British government, because the First and Second Anglo-Mysore War defeats by Hyder Ali were oftentimes viewed as a slight of the British Army and administration in India."

Painted by experts who 'specialised in depicting great scenes from history', a projection of power is evident in these prints. The colonial master reigns supreme even in an act of moral barbarity (kidnapping Tipu Sultan's sons), and pats himself on the back for what is laughably poised as magnanimity: the return of the children to their mother. Interestingly, the perceptive viewer even notices the nomenclature 'Tippoo Saib', revealing a refusal to accord the title of 'Sultan' to the racialised other.

This otherisation in terms of physical features is a paradoxical area. As Baboo notes, these particular prints in terms of creation foresaw the inevitable: "These two prints were made by publisher Haines in 1796, even prior to the final defeat and death of Tipu Sultan at the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War of 1799." Moreover, the majority of portrayals of Tipu Sultan by the West, as Baboo shares, as opposed to these two prints in question, were made after his death. In the prints commissioned or created post the monarch's death, Tipu Sultan is portrayed in a sort of ahistoric or retroactive light: in these, not only does he have caucasian features, but also lacks the rotundity so often associated with him from documentation, especially from India.

What perhaps one witnesses the most in these paintings is art as a medium that conveys the tensions of a regime in stress. It would be imprudent to call these tensions early faultlines; indeed, the crown's fangs into the Indian mainland would sink only further. However, these paintings, as historic footnotes, exist to portray an empire in nascent anxiety; an empire not used to defeat, which was (and is) committed to acts far worse than using art as an ideological shield.

These two prints were made by publisher Haines in 1796, even prior to the final defeat and death of Tipu Sultan at the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War of 1799

Sunil Baboo, collector

PICS: ALLEN EGENUSE J

CITY READ

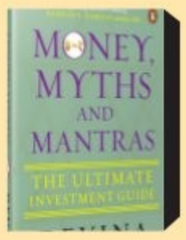
Educational institute celebrates Republic Day

Kristu Jayanti College celebrated the 76th Republic Day by hoisting the National Flag, followed by an inspiring address by Mary Jacob, Coordinator of the Human Resources Development Centre, Department of Computer Science. The speech quoted real-life examples of unity and compassion such as acts during the Kerala floods and initiatives like Sikh langars serving all communities. As part of the celebrations, NCC Cadets, students, and faculty members took an oath to uphold the values of the Constitution and contribute to nation-building.

Cancer centre conducts nation's first Nipple Sparing Mastectomy

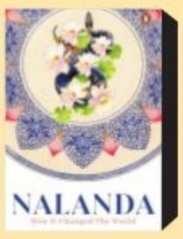
Apollo Cancer Centre (ACC) Bengaluru conducted India's first Robotic Nipple Sparing Mastectomy (RNSM), making use of Titanised Polypropylene Mesh for breast implant reconstruction. The patient that received this surgery is 37-year-old Latha who was diagnosed with right breast cancer in April 2024. The team at ACC led by robotic breast surgeon, Dr Jayanti Thumsi, administered 16 cycles of chemotherapy and performed RNSM with TiLoop and breast implant reconstruction. She was also given radiation therapy. She's now on Hormone Therapy and doing well.

BOOK NOOK



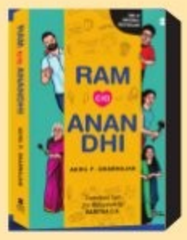
Money, Myths, and Mantras
by Devina Mehra

From the intricacies of asset allocation to the psychology of human behaviour in investing, *Money, Myths, and Mantras* distills decades of experience into actionable insights.



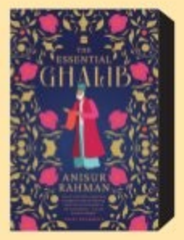
Nalanda: How It Changed the World
by Abhay K

The book is a sweeping exploration of the rise, fall, and revival of Nalanda, offering readers a deep dive into its contributions to global knowledge and culture.



Ram C/O Anandhi
by Akhil P Dharmajan, translated by Haritha CK

Ram, a native of Alleppey, Kerala, relocates to the bustling city of Chennai with dreams of mastering filmmaking and writing a novel. But when he meets Anandhi, a feisty receptionist at his college, his world turns upside down.



The Essential Ghalib
by Anisur Rahman

In *The Essential Ghalib*, veteran scholar, author and translator Anisur Rahman presents an exemplary selection of Mirza Ghalib's Urdu couplets, translated in English along with critical commentaries.

ODISSI ODYSSEY

Folk dancers from Odisha performing at 'Kala Dhwani', a cultural event at Chitrakala Parishath, Seshadripuram | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

QUICKFIX

RICE PATHR

INGREDIENTS

- **Rice:** 1 cup
- **Water:** 1.5 cups
- **Salt:** 1/4 tsp

METHOD

- Soak rice for a minimum of two hours.
- Grind the rice, adding salt as required.
- Pour the paste into a heated pan. Extract the water content in the paste.
- Shift the dough from the pan to another container.
- Make smaller balls out of the paste and press them using a press machine.
- Heat both sides of the rice pathr, till it puffs like chapati.

Contributed by **Fathima Naseema,** Mangaluru

DR VIVEK ARORA

drvivekarora@hotmail.com

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi.

My four-year-old cat is having itching and scratching, leading to redness on the skin. It happens often after I feed her fish. Could it be a food allergy? How can I deal with it?

Yes, your cat's itching and redness may be caused by a food allergy, particularly if it happens after eating fish. Food allergies in cats can have various symptoms, often resulting in skin problems like itching, redness, or hair loss. To address this, try removing fish from her diet and monitor if her symptoms improve. You could also consider hypoallergenic cat food or visit your vet for testing and guidance. Your vet may suggest treatments for the itching and inflammation, such as medicated shampoos or antihistamines, to help provide relief.

ASK AN XPERT

FITBIT

TADASANA HINDOLASANA
(STANDING CRADLE POSE)

This is a graceful standing-balance variation of the seated-hip-opener, Hindolasana (Cradle Pose). Hence the name Tadasana Hindolasana. While both versions share similarities in their cradling motion, this variation elevates the challenge by incorporating balance and strength.

STEPS

- Begin in Tadasana (Mountain Pose). Stand tall and take a few deep breaths. Inhale, lift your left heel, balance on your toes, and place your hands on your hips. Shift your weight onto your right foot, grounding it firmly. Engage your quadriceps and glutes for stability. Exhale fully.
- Inhale again, bend your left knee, and draw it toward your chest, holding it with your hands. Hold your left ankle or shin with your left hand and gently guide your knee to the side. Cradle your left leg by placing your left foot in the right elbow crease, ensuring the arch rests comfortably. Wrap your right hand around the outer edge of your left leg/foot while supporting your left knee with your left hand. The bent knee should rest in the left elbow crease.
- Wrap your hands around your left shin, drawing the knee closer to the chest, toward the left armpit. Flex your left foot. Hold your palms together to create a secure lock. Maintain balance by pressing down through your right foot and engaging your right knee. Keep your shoulders relaxed and your chest open.
- Stand tall and hold the pose (Tadasana Hindolasana) for about six breaths or as long as comfortable. With each inhale, lengthen your spine, lifting from the base. Focus on a steady point in front of you to maintain balance. With each exhale, settle deeper into the pose, feeling grounded through your right foot while keeping your upper body light.
- Exhale, release your hands and leg, and lower your left foot to the ground, maintaining control as you return to Tadasana.
- Relax your arms by your sides and take a deep breath. Repeat on the other side, then return to Tadasana. Finally, release and relax in Mountain Pose with palms facing forward.

BENEFITS

- Helps tone the legs, focusing on building strength, stamina, and mental focus.
- Included in yoga for kids due to its simplicity yet a challenge, which can instantly engage children.
- Beneficial for individuals with flat feet or fallen arches.
- Stretches pelvic floor muscles, hamstrings, adductors (groin), thighs, calf muscles and gluteus maximus.
- Enhances flexibility of the lower body.
- Focuses on Swadhisthana (Sacral) Chakra.
- Beneficial for people who sit at a desk for long hours.

LIMITATIONS

- People with injuries to the hips, lower back, or knees, or to the muscles of the legs, back, and arms, recovering from abdominal pain, suffering from piles, coccydynia, pregnancy, acute osteoarthritis, cannot establish body-breath connection, must avoid this.
- Beginners or those who struggle with balance can practise with the support of a wall or chair.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

EXPRESS CONNECT
HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?
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@xpress_bengaluru

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Creativity Connect

Explore the world of creativity at the Authors' Meet, where aspiring writers connect, share ideas, and refine their craft.

WHEN: January 27, 6.30pm
WHERE: Slay Coffee, Koramangala
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Sip & Slay

Get ready to groove to your favourite beats all night long. Indulge in delicious appetisers, quench your thirst with a wide selection of refreshing cocktails and mocktails, and relax to the soothing tunes curated by DJ Vshy.

WHEN: January 27, 7pm
WHERE: SideWalk Bar & Kitchen, Marathahalli
DETAILS: highape.com

Life Unfolds

Immerse yourself in a play that brings to life the remarkable autobiography of **Saalumarada Thimmakka**. Witness her extraordinary contributions, deep social concerns, and unwavering love and care for nature as her inspiring story unfolds on stage.

WHEN: January 27, 7pm
WHERE: Kalagrama, Jnana Bharathi
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Fun Time!

Enjoy with Hamleys Play, a magical garden filled with slides, water play, storytelling, and endless fun! Explore adventures like rock climbing, sand play, and DIY activities too.

WHEN: January 27, 11am onwards
WHERE: Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Laugh & Chill

Laugh, sip, and chill! Enjoy a hilarious evening with coffee, cupcakes, crusty sandwiches, and a dash of comedians.

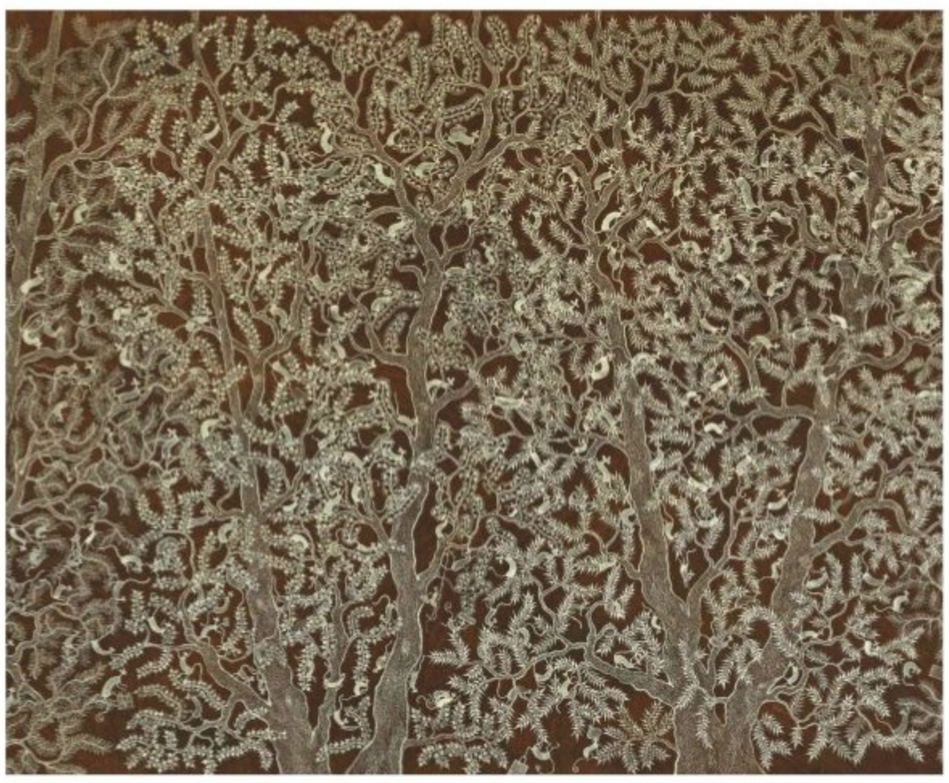
WHEN: January 27, 8pm
WHERE: Glen's BakeHouse, Kalyan Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Symphony of Soul

Don't miss this chance to experience the magic of Carnatic music at its finest. Embark on a musical journey with Vidwan **Sunil Gargyan**, a virtuoso Carnatic vocalist renowned for his evocative renditions. His music blends tradition and innovation.

WHEN: January 27, 5.30pm
WHERE: Indiranagar Sangeetha Sabha, Indiranagar
DETAILS: insider.in

ARTCORNER



SACRED LINES

'Flame of the Ancestors' by Mayur & Tushar Vayeda is about unexplored myths, stories, and knowledge systems of the Warli tribe

In *10 Makers Of The Indian Constitution*, author and publisher Karthik Venkatesh takes readers to an important time in India's modern history: the initial days when the Indian Constitution was being drafted

BY THE BOOK

AKASH CHATTERJEE

IT was the best of times, it was the worst of times'. This line from Charles Dickens' famous novel, *A Tale Of Two Cities*, perfectly captures the early years after India's independence when the country was struggling to recover from the scars and traumas of the bloodshed that the partition had unleashed. And yet it was the best of times as the values of a free India that was still fighting poverty, communalism, and other fallouts of an almost 200-year-old colonial shackle, was being enshrined in a book that would guide the newborn nation through the decades.

The Indian Constitution, also called 'The Red Book' for its black-red cover, has been the guiding light of Indian social, economic, and administrative systems. In his book *10 Makers Of The Indian Constitution*, author-publisher and the executive editor of Penguin Random House, Karthik Venkatesh, has given some insights.

Author Karthik Venkatesh with his book *10 Makers Of The Indian Constitution*

About personalities

"The Constitution word has been doing rounds in Indian political circles for years. The growing debates strengthened my interest in writing the book. However, instead of digging into the Constitution, I focused on the Constituent Assembly and 10 eminent personalities who contributed towards making the book. I chose the 10 on the basis of their interesting lives and diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds," says Venkatesh.

The 10 are Jawaharlal Nehru, BR Ambedkar, Jaipal Singh Munda, Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Dakshayani Velayudhan, Hasrat Mohani, KM Munshi, Hansa Mehta, G Durgabai, and James Joy Mohan Nichols Roy. What is perhaps well known is that despite contrasting ideologies, the men tried to work together. For instance, BR Ambedkar, who was an ardent critic of Gandhi's stance against separate electorates which he felt would help Dalits, and the Congress, became the head of the drafting committee and the first law minister of independent India. What is less known are figures like Munda. An ICS and hockey professional-turned-politician, and an ardent supporter of Adivasi rights, he critiqued the proposal of prohibition, associating it with tribal identity. The book cites a part of his speech: "In West Bengal, for instance, it would be impossible for paddy to be transplanted if the santhal does not get his rice beer. These ill-clad men, without even their barest wants satisfied, have to work knee-deep in water throughout the day, in drenching rain and in mud. What is it in the rice beer that keeps them alive? I wish the medical authorities in this country would carry out research in their laboratories to find out what it is that the rice beer contains, of which the Adivasis need so much, and which keeps them against all manner of diseases."

Representation, debates

As the book reveals, the assembly attracted members who were elected from various provinces. The Congress, which had the largest member-share in the assembly, relied on either freedom fighters and/or representatives of provincial interests. Many non-Congress politicians like BR Ambedkar became part of it by being elected from provinces where they had the majority. To represent India's diversity, members from India's minority populations and 15 prominent women were inducted.

What was fiercely contested was the question of ensuring a 'national language' for the country.

Eventually it was decided to implement the 'Munshi-Ayyangar formula' which proposed Hindi in Devanagari script to be the official language of the union, and that English would be used in all official works for 15 years from the date the Constitution was adopted.

The Constitution was finally signed by all the members of the assembly in 1950. Since then, it has been the guiding light of Indian democracy protecting the interests of citizens despite significant challenges.

BROWN SUGAR, SPICE, & EVERYTHING NICE

A Food and Beverage Trends report states that brown sugar is the 2025 flavour of the year. Here is how you can include it in your recipes

AASHNA REDDY

WHO knew a humble pantry staple could steal the culinary spotlight? Brown sugar isn't just for cookies and coffee – it's the secret ingredient to creating dishes that are equal parts indulgent and unforgettable. Unlike white sugar, which is all about sweetness, brown sugar brings more to the table. Its molass-rich profile adds depth, a hint of caramel, and a complexity that elevates both sweet and savoury recipes in ways white sugar simply can't. From savoury glazes to refreshing drinks and even crispy appams, these recipes take brown sugar out of the shadows and give it the starring role it deserves. So, roll up your sleeves, grab that golden jar, and let's dive into six irresistibly sweet (and savoury!) creations that'll have you rethinking sugar forever.

(Inputs from Sonu M Kothari)

Miso Glazed Salmon

By Ashwanth Anadasu

An elegant fusion of savoury and sweet, this dish balances caramelised brown sugar with the umami punch of miso. Perfect for dinner parties or a refined midweek meal.

INGREDIENTS

- Salmon fillets
- Brown sugar: 2 tablespoons
- White miso paste: 1 tablespoon
- Dijon mustard: 1 teaspoon
- Soy sauce: a splash
- Lemon juice
- Olive oil

Method

- Preheat the oven to 200°C (400°F).
- In a bowl, mix brown sugar, miso paste, Dijon mustard, soy sauce, and a squeeze of lemon juice into a smooth glaze.
- Brush the glaze generously over the salmon fillets.
- Bake for 12-15 minutes until the salmon is caramelised on top and cooked through.
- Serve with roasted asparagus or a light salad for an elegant meal.

Sweet Dosae

By Gnanasingh Arputhadas

This traditional South Indian delicacy gets a sweet twist with the addition of brown sugar.

Ingredients

- Wheat flour: 1 cup
- Rice flour: 1 tablespoon
- Brown sugar: ½ cup
- Salt: a pinch
- Grated coconut (optional)
- Cardamom powder (optional)

Method

- Dissolve brown sugar in ¼ cup of water over medium heat, strain, and let it cool.
- In a bowl, combine wheat flour, rice flour, and salt. Add grated coconut and cardamom powder, if using.
- Mix the cooled syrup with the flour mixture, whisking into a thin batter. Add water if necessary.
- Heat a tawa or skillet, grease lightly with oil, and pour the batter in a circular motion.
- Cook until golden, flip, and cook the other side.
- Serve hot for breakfast or as a snack.

Brown Sugar Halwa

By Gnanaselvi: A decadent and traditional dessert with a velvety texture and rich, nutty flavour.

Ingredients

- Wheat flour: 1 cup
- Brown sugar: 1 cup
- Ghee: ½ cup
- Cardamom powder: 2 pinches
- Cashew nuts: 15

Method

- Knead wheat flour into a stiff dough, soak it in 1.5 cups of water for four hours, and extract wheat milk by kneading it further in water.
- Fry cashews in ghee until golden brown.
- Dissolve brown sugar in ½ cup of water over medium heat and strain.
- Heat the syrup in a pan until it reaches single-string consistency.
- Add the wheat milk slowly, stirring continuously to avoid lumps.
- Cook on low heat, adding ghee in increments until the mixture thickens and pulls away from the pan.
- Stir in cardamom powder and fried cashews. Cool slightly before serving.

Ice Cream Bread

By Deepti Rebala

This easy three-ingredient recipe creates a soft, dessert-like bread. Ideal for brunch or as a quick treat.

Ingredients

- Melted vanilla ice cream: 2 cups
- Self-raising flour: 1½ cups
- Brown sugar: 3 tablespoons

Method

- Preheat the oven to 175°C (350°F).
- Combine melted ice cream, brown sugar, and self-raising flour into a smooth batter.
- Pour the batter into a greased loaf pan.
- Bake for 35-40 minutes until golden brown.
- Slice and serve warm with butter, jam, or a drizzle of honey.

Appam

By Gnanasingh Arputhadas

These crisp golden fritters, sweetened with brown sugar, are a festive favourite.

Ingredients

- Rava (semolina): 1 cup
- Rice flour: ¼ cup
- Brown sugar: 1 cup
- Grated coconut: ½ cup
- Ghee: 1 tablespoon
- Cardamom powder: a pinch
- Oil for frying

METHOD

- Dissolve brown sugar in ½ cup of water over medium heat, strain, and let it cool.
- Soak the rava in the syrup for 15 minutes.
- Blend the soaked rava and grated coconut into a smooth paste.
- Mix in rice flour, cardamom powder, and ghee to form a thick batter.
- Heat oil in a kadai and drop spoonfuls of batter into the hot oil.
- Fry until golden brown, flipping as needed.
- Drain excess oil and serve hot.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I. **ANIRUDH D KUMAR, S/o Dileep Kumar B P,** aged about 20 years, R/at FF 104, Sashwath Theera, No.302, 15th Cross, Soundarya Layout, Sidedahalli, Nagasandra Post, Bangalore - 560073.

I have changed my name from **"ANIRUDH B P"** to **"ANIRUDH D KUMAR"** I will hereafter be known by my new name **"ANIRUDH D KUMAR"** for all legal and official purposes, including my Passport application and other official documents. vide Affidavit dated 21.01.2025, sworn before S.N.Madhu, Advocate & Notary, at Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SUSHMA SETH, W/o Sri Ramesh Kumar, aged about 41 years, R/at No.109, B-2, Shilpitha Splendour, Chinnappa layout, outer ring Road, Mahadevapura, Bangalore-560048, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SUSHMA KUMARI** to **SUSHMA SETH** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SUSHMA SETH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-01-2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.B. SADHA SHIVAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHANTHALA VENKATESH PRASAD, aged about 52 years, W/o. Venkatesh Prasad Srinivasa, No. 154, 11th Cross, Vyalikaval Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560003, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHANTHALA DEVI M A** to **SHANTHALA VENKATESH PRASAD,** vide affidavit dated 24.01.2025, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, Sri Manjunath Atchutanna Phani Venkata Raghavendra (A.P.V.R. Manjunath), S/o A.S.V Raghavendra Rao, aged about 44 years & Smt Lakshmi Supriya Nandanavananam, W/o Manjunath Atchutanna Phani Venkata Raghavendra, aged about 40 years, R/at Flat No 103, Saptagiri Residency-IV, 1st A Main Road, Rajeev Nagar, Revenue Layout, Katriguppe, Banshankri 3rd Stage, Bangalore-85. Hereby declare that, we have changed our minor daughter's name from **'RIDHISHRI NAGA RAGHAVA SAI ATCHUTANNA' (A.N.R.S RIDHISHRI)** to **"RIDHISHRI ATCHUTANNA"**, vide Affidavit dated 25.01.2025, Sworn before Advocate and Notary G. Dayananda, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **THANKAM ANILDAS** W/o Anil Das, Residing at Felix Home, 3rd Main Road, Dwarka Nagar, Bagalur cross Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064. Hereby declare that I have changed my name from **THANKAM ANILDAS** to **THANKAM RAMACHANDRAN** vide affidavit dated 24.01.2025 sworn to before Notary **S R Ravikumar,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Nitesh Jagdishchandra Trivedi, S/o Mr. Jagdishchandra Gopaljee Trivedi, aged 48 years, R/at #301, Maangalaya Survodaya, #17/2, Varthur Main Road, Marathahalli, Bangaluru - 560037, Karnataka, India, my Daughter's name is Devanshi Trivedi. In her 12th Marks card of CBSE board document my is i,e (father name) is wrongly mentioned as "Nitesh Trivedi" instead of **Nitesh Jagdishchandra Trivedi**, vide affidavit dated 25/01/2025 sworn before advocate and notary, Indira S.S Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) SHAIKH ABDUL RAZAK S/o Shaik Aziz (Late), residing at # 60, Ranaji Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SHAIKH ABDUL RAZAK to (NEW NAME) SHAIK ABDUL RAZAK** vide affidavit dated 22.01.2025 sworn before Notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PAVITHRA NAGARAJ, S/o Nagaraj, Aged about 34 years, R/at No.5, Thayi Chowdeshwari Nilaya, Indira Street, Subbanapalya, Bangalore-560033, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PAVITHRA PARAMESH** to **PAVITHRA NAGARAJ** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PAVITHRA NAGARAJ** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25-01-2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **AKHILA SESHADRI,** Aged about 29 years, W/o. A Nagarjun, resident of Flat No.203, Kings and Queens Apartment, Chunchaghatta Main Road, Next to Silicon City School, New Bank Colony, Bengaluru South, Konanakunte Post, Bengaluru-560062, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **AKHILA SESHADRI** to **AKHILA S BHARADWAJ**, vide affidavit dated 25-01-2025 sworn before notary S.N Madhu, Reg. No.10108, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NEHA BHARATH KUMAR JAIN,** D/o **T.Bharath kumar, aged about 21 years, resident of No.9, Babli Kunj, Jain Temple Cross Road, V.V.Puram Bangalore 560 004, have changed my name to NEHA BHARATH vide affidavit dated 24-01-2025 sworn to before advocate and notary B.S. Hemanth Kumar, Bangalore.**

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHAKUNTHALA P VAGLE (DOB: 12-07-1962) W/o. Prabhakar Vagle, Residing at No.3455, 3rd Cross, C Block, Gayathrinagar, Bangalore-560021 declare that **SHAKUNTHALA P VAGLE, SHAKUNTHALA NAYAK, SHAKUNTHALA** is one and the same person, i.e. myself only. After my marriage have changed my Name to **SHAKUNTHALA P VAGLE** for all my future purpose. Vide affidavit dated: 23.01.2025 before Notary Onkarappa, N.R. Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MALAYADRI, S/o. Venkataiah, Aged about 47 years, Residing at No.208, Nellore puram, New thippasandra Post, Bangalore-560 075, have changed my son's name from **SIDDHARTHA.M** to **SIDDHARTHA MALAYADRI,** vide affidavit dated 22/1/2025 sworn to before R.S.Vijay Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Smt. MAHALAKSHMI .N, W/o Nagaraja .N, situated at No.1, karthik Nivas, 13th B Cross, Anepalya, Adugodi Post, Bangalore-560030 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **L A K S H M I . N** and **MAHALAKSHMI .N** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **MAHALAKSHMI .N** vide affidavit dated 24-01-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B.M. CHANDRASHEKAR** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **ARUN KUMAR .B,** aged about 41 years, S/o. Babu, residing at No. 18, 1st A Cross, 7th Main Road, Gowtham Nagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore-560021, do hereby declare that **ARUN KUMAR .B** & **AMJED** both the names belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 24.01.2025, sworn to before C.K. Arupama, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SUREKHA SESHADRI,** Aged about 55 years, W/o. Seshadri B V resident of No.9, Karthik Nilaya, 3rd Main, 2nd Cross, Ramanjaneya Nagar, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru-560061, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **SUREKHA SESHADRI** to **SUREKHA A S**, vide affidavit dated 25-01-2025 sworn before notary S.N Madhu, Reg. No.10108, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SYED SALMAN,** S/o. Shaik Ameer Jan, aged about 28 years, R/at. No. 48/34, 1st Main Road, M.S. Palya, Near PVK Store, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560 097, have changed my name to **SHAIK SALMAN** vide affidavit dated 25-01-2025 sworn to before advocate and notary G. Dayananda, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, DHRUV NAVEEN (DOB: 27.12.2006) S/o. Naveen Kumar A. and Revathi N.S. Resident of No. 26, Annayappa Garden, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru- 560075 Declared That **DHRUV N.** and **DHRUV NAVEEN** both name are refer to one and the same person, i.e. myself only. Henceforth, i will be known as **DHRUV NAVEEN** for all my future purpose. Vide affidavit dated 26.01.2025 sworn before Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

DECLARATION

I, (OLD NAME) N. KESAMBAL, (Existing name of Spouse as per NOK) is legally weded spouse of No. 1323232, Rank: SPR, Name: Kaliaperumal, presently residing at No. 31/2, Ground Floor, Muneshwara Temple Street, Veerabadrappa Road, R.S.Palya, Bengaluru North, Maruthisevanagar PO, Bengaluru 560033, Karnataka, I have changed my name from N. KESAMBAL to **N. KESHAMBAL** and My **DOB is 15.04.1941** vide affidavit Dated 22/01/2025 sworn to before Notary K.Venkateshan, B.A., LL.B., Bangalore 560033.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, LILAWATI DEVI as per service documents dependents of Munesh Kumar, resident of H.No. 185, Vill+Post-Pachawar, Taluk-Mahavan, Dist-Mathura UP Pin-281308, have changed my name from **LILAWATI DEVI to LILAWATI** vide affidavit Dated 24/01/2025 sworn before A.R.Muneer Ahmed,Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **SUNDER RAO K.N.,** S/o. K.S. Narayana Rao, Aged about 72 years, Residing at # 175, Sri Krishna, 2nd Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, do hereby declare that my name is called as **SUNDAR RAJ K N** (CML - IN300394 19433513) **SUNDER RAO K.N.** (Aadhar Card) & **SUNDERRAO NARAYANRAO KORADI** (Pan Card) all the names belongs to me only & the names are one and same. Presently for all identification proofs, I am called as **SUNDER RAO K.N.** vide affidavit dated 23.01.2025 sworn to before Mamatha N.K, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Nishimitha S**, D/o. Mr. G.V. Srinivas, aged about 19 years, Residing at #17, Sachidananda Nagar, Kengeri Satellite Town, Near Robin Theatre, Kengeri, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560060, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Nishimitha S** to **Nishtha S,** vide affidavit dated 23.12.2024, sworn to before V. Srinivasa Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Y SRINIVASA RAO S/o Yeshwantha Rao, Residing at #40/1, 3rd A Main Road, Magadi Main Road, Kaveripura, Kamakshi Palya, Bengaluru North, Basaveswara nagar Post Office, Bengaluru-560079 have changed my name from **SRINIVASA RAO**(Old Name) to **Y SRINIVASA RAO** (New Name) vide affidavit dated 06/01/2025 sworn before Notary Veena K, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Mrs. MOANISHAA JAYANTH** about 36 years, W/o. Jayanth.T. Residing at No.399, 14th B Cross, West of Chord Road, 2nd Phase, 2nd Stage, Mahalakshmipuram Layout, Bangalore-560 086, have changed my name from **USHA. B to MOANISHAA JAYANTH** vide Affidavit dated 24-01-2025 before advocate & Notary Deepa .M, at Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Avadhesh Kishorechandra Karia, aged about 46 years, S/o. Mr. Kishorchandra Manilal Karia, R/o # D 140, The Greens Apartment, Near Alpine Eco Apartment, Doddanekundi, Bengaluru - 560037, Karnataka, India, I have changed my minor son's names from **'MANAS KARIA'** to **'MANAS AVADHESH KARIA'** vide affidavit dated 25/01/2025 sworn before advocate and notary, Indira S.S Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, APURVA SANARIA, S/o Dahyabhai Dudhabhai Sonara Presently R/at D-308, Faculty Quarters IIMB Campus, B.G. Road, Bilekahalli, Bangalore South, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560076. do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **APURVA DAHYABHAI SANARIA** to **APURVA SANARIA** henceforth I shall be known and called as **APURVA SANARIA** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 24-01-2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.S. CHANDRAKANTH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, Sri Manjunath Atchutanna Phani Venkata Raghavendra (A.P.V.R. Manjunath), S/o A.S.V Raghavendra Rao, aged about 44 years & Smt Lakshmi Supriya Nandanavananam, W/o Manjunath Atchutanna Phani Venkata Raghavendra, aged about 40 years, R/at Flat No 103, Saptagiri Residency-IV, 1st A Main Road, Rajeev Nagar, Revenue Layout, Katriguppe, Banshankri 3rd Stage, Bangalore-85. Hereby declare that, we have changed our minor daughter's name from **'TANUSHRI NAGA RAGHAVA SAI ATCHUTANNA' (A.N.R.S TANUSHRI)** to **"TANUSHRI ATCHUTANNA"**, vide Affidavit dated 25.01.2025, Sworn before Advocate and Notary G. Dayananda, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **ANILDAS** Residing at Felix Home, 3rd Main Road, Dwarka Nagar, Bagalur Cross Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064. Hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **ADHIKESAV** to **ADHIKESHAV DAS** vide affidavit dated 24.01.2025 sworn to before Notary **S R Ravikumar,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JYOTI PRAKASH SAHI, S/o Shanti Prakash Sahi, Aged about 80 years, Residing at No.115, Vishram, Silvepuram, Hesaraghatta, Chikkabanavara, Bengaluru-560090, I declare that below mentioned names **JYOTI SAHI, JYOTI P SAHI i.e JYOTI PRAKASH SAHI** belongs to me only. I declare that my correct name is **JYOTI PRAKASH SAHI.,** vide affidavit dated 25/01/2025 sworn to before G.R.Ravichandra Reddy Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

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Contact
Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

Sharanya Shetty to star opposite Prem in her first feature as lead

CE FEATURES

SHARANYA Shetty, known for her roles in films like *1980*, *Naguvina Hoogugale*, *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi*, and her most recent, *Forest*, is all set to take on her first-ever feature film as a female lead. The film, which is to bring Nenapirali Prem back in a new avatar, will feature her in a cop role. Directed by Thejes, who has also written the story and screenplay, the film is scheduled to go on floors in February. Sharanya is thrilled about stepping into this unique role.

"I'm excited about this role because it's very different from anything I've done before. Not only is it my first solo lead, but it's also a role that requires me to learn a new language. It's going to be interesting," Sharanya says. "Playing a lead character has always been in my mind, but I never wanted to be typecast. I've always wanted to break the mould and do something different," she adds.

The yet-to-be-titled film, produced by Geethanjali B S's Pentric Entertainments, has Vasuki Vaibhav as the music composer and Anand Meenakshi as the DOP.

In addition to her work alongside Prem in Kannada, Sharanya is also signed up for a Telugu film, in which she stars opposite Vishwak Sen. While details about the project are being kept under wraps for now, Sharanya hints that more information will be revealed as the film goes on floors.

Sharanya Shetty

Viraat shines in Dinakar's signature family entertainer

A SHARADHAA

DINAKAR Thoogudeepa, known for his knack for experimenting with genres in films like *Jothe Jotheyalli*, *Navagraha*, and *Sarathi*, has his own signature style This time, he teams up with newcomer Viraat and Sanjana Anand for a full-throttle commercial entertainer—a genre he's mastered over the years. With *Royal*, Dinakar delivers exactly what fans expect: a high-energy family entertainer packed with drama, action, and sentiment. The film checks all the boxes of a quintessential commercial film—nothing more, nothing less.

The film's plotline cleverly blends street smarts and sophistication, atypical of mass entertainers. What *Royal* also delivers is the emotional value.

The story kicks off with a group of girls, led by a vivacious Sanjana (Sanjana Anand), heading to Goa under the pretense of visiting Gokarna. Their adventure takes an unexpected turn when they hire Krishna (Viraat), a supposed male stripper, only to discover he's actually a conman. Krishna steals their phones and demands money in return, setting the stage for a series of hilarious and dramatic twists.

Sanjana, initially outraged by Krishna's antics, begins to see his softer side during their time together. Raised by a strong and compassionate single mother (Chaya Singh), Krishna reveals he dreams of nothing but a *royal* life, thanks to his unenviable childhood. His charm along with the vulnerabilities win Sanjana over, but just as she starts to believe in him, she learns his true motives. A bitter fallout ensues, leading Krishna into deeper trouble when he's arrested and brought before a comatose business tycoon, who turns out to be his estranged father (Achyut Kumar).

From this point, the narrative pivots into family drama and corporate intrigue. Krishna inherits a massive food production empire but soon learns it's running into losses and caught in a debt trap. Flashbacks reveal the sacrifices of his mother, who opposed unethical practices in the business, and the eventual fallout with her husband. With the company's future at stake, Krishna must rise above his conman instincts to honour his mother's legacy and save the empire.

Enter Raghu Mukherjee as the scheming rival businessman, a formidable force determined to seize the food empire by any means necessary. With cunning strategies and an arsenal of underhanded tactics, he becomes the ultimate adversary to Krishna. As the stakes rise, Krishna must rely on his street smarts, newfound purpose, and the values instilled by his mother to outmanoeuvre this ruthless rival. Will Krishna, the conman with a conscience, rise above the chaos and save the legacy his family built?

Viraat shines as Krishna, bringing a blend of mischief, swagger, and vulnerability to the role. While his action sequences and dances are impressive, his dialogue delivery occasionally lacks punch, especially in emotional scenes. Sanjana Anand delivers a spirited performance, and her chemistry with Viraat is electric—their romantic track and dance sequences are a visual treat. Chaya Singh's portrayal of a resilient mother is the emotional backbone of the film, and her scenes with Viraat are deeply moving. Raghu Mukherjee impresses yet again, this time stepping into a sharp and sinister avatar. His portrayal of the crafty antagonist balances charm and menace in equal measure. Not to miss the debut of Dinakar Thoogudeepa's son, Surya, who steps into the spotlight as the younger version of Viraat in the film. His portrayal adds an emotional layer to the story, showcasing the roots of Krishna's character and the journey that shapes him into the man he becomes.

Dinakar Thoogudeepa's direction carries his distinctive touch, weaving grandiose moments with heartfelt storytelling. The film nods to beloved hits like *KGF* and *Charlie*, sprinkling in a dash of nostalgia. At its core, *Royal* also sheds light on a pressing issue—how the cutthroat corporate culture that is driven by profit motive paves way for adulteration and the launch of harmful preservatives into the market. The first half, albeit a tad prolonged, skilfully sets up Krishna's sly conman persona. The second half accelerates the narrative, evolving into a gripping blend of revenge and family drama that keeps the audience engaged.

The film boasts stunning visuals, capturing the vibrancy of Goa and the grandeur of Krishna's newfound *royal* life. Charan Raj's music complements the narrative, with foot-tapping numbers and soulful melodies. The action sequences are well-executed, with Viraat showcasing his physical prowess.

The mother-son bond is the film's heart, delivering some of the most memorable and heartwarming moments. Viraat and Sanjana's chemistry adds charm, while the corporate drama and ethical dilemmas provide depth to the storyline. However, the film could have benefitted from tighter editing in the first half, and some dialogues lack the impact needed to elevate key scenes.

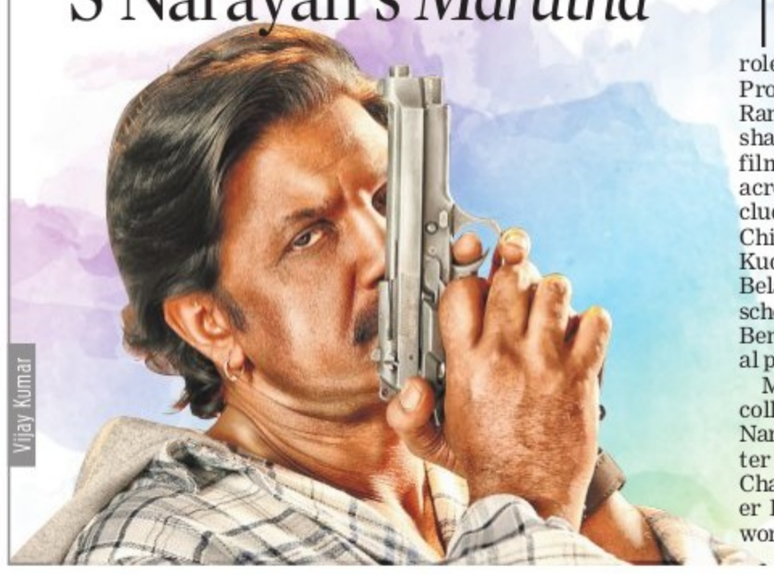
Royal is an out-and-out commercial entertainer that balances action, comedy, and sentiment. It's a tale of redemption, family, and the struggle to uphold values in a world where unscrupulous pursuit towards success is the norm. With engaging performances, emotional depth, and Dinakar Thoogudeepa's directorial flair, *Royal* is worth a watch for fans of mass cinema

ROYAL

Director: Dinakar Thoogudeepa

Cast: Viraat, Sanjana Anand, Achyuth Kumar, Chaya Singh, Rahu Mukhejee and Surya

It's a wrap for S Narayan's *Marutha*


Vijay Kumar

CE FEATURES

THE shooting for Marutha, directed by S Narayan and starring Vijay Kumar and Shreyas K Manju in lead roles, has been wrapped up. Produced by K Manju and Ramesh Yadav under the Eesha Productions banner, the film has been lavishly shot across various locations, including Bengaluru, Mysuru, Chikkamagaluru, Dharwad, Kudala Sangama, Savadatti, Belagavi, and Goa. The final schedule was completed near Bengaluru with the traditional pumpkin-breaking ritual.

Marutha marks the third collaboration between Dr S Narayan and Vijay Kumar after their successful films Chanda and Daksha. Producer K Manju has previously worked with Vijay Kumar on hits like Rajinikanth and Shankar IPS. This film marks producer Ramesh Yadav's first project with the actor.

Marutha is described as a content-driven film that reflects the story of every household. According to the director, it delves into the unseen forces that silently affect society and their harmful consequences.

Brinda plays the female lead, while Sadhu Kokila plays a unique role, unlike anything he has done before. The ensemble cast includes Nishvika Naidu, Rangayana Raghu, Tara Anuradha, Sharath Lohitashwa, Pramod Shetty, Manju Pavagada, and Chitra Shenoy. Additionally, Ravichandran will appear in a special role. The technical team comprises cinematographer PKH Das and editor Shivaprasad Yadav.

KVN Productions' Thalapathy 69 titled *Jana Nayagan*; first look out

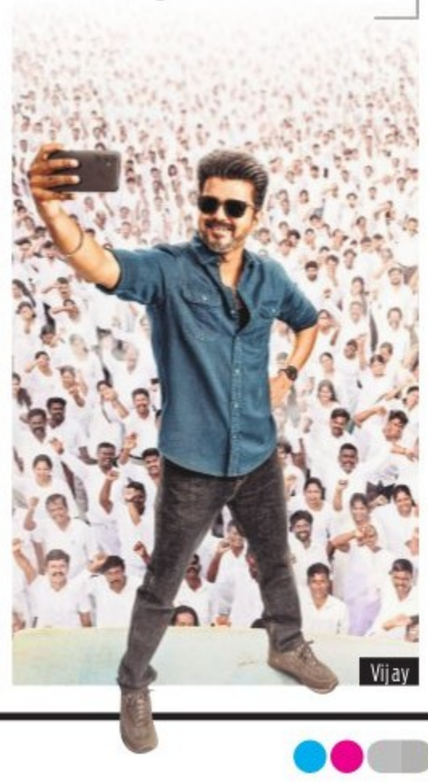
CE FEATURES

ACTOR Vijay's final film before his full-fledged entry into politics, produced by Venkat K Narayan, marks another milestone for KVN Productions. The production house quickly established itself in the Kannada industry, and now, the banner is spreading its wings globally with Vijay's 69th film, officially titled *Jana Nayagan*. The first—and second-look posters of the film have also been unveiled.

The first-look poster shows Vijay standing confidently, hands on his hips, taking a selfie in front of a massive crowd. Helmed by H Vinoth, the film's ensemble cast includes Bobby Deol, Pooja Hegde, and Narain, along with Prakash Raj, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Priyamani, Mamitha Baiju, and Teejay Arunasalam.

On the technical front, *Jana Nayagan* has music composer Anirudh Ravichander, cinematographer Sathyan Sooryan, editor Pradeep E Ragav, action choreographer Anlarasu, art director Selva Kumar, and costume designer Pallavi Singh.

Venkat K Narayan


Vijay

CE FEATURES

THE release of *Apaayavide Eccharike*, originally slated for February 7, has been moved up to February 28. The film, directed by debutant Abhijith Thirthahalli, had already piqued curiosity with a motion poster and two engaging songs. The first track, 'Bachelor,' sung by Vijay Prakash, offers a humorous take on bachelor life, while the second song, released after the teaser, follows the film's intriguing premise. Now in post-production, the film is gearing up for release.

Vikas Uthaiah, known for his role in the TV series Annaiah, makes his silver screen debut in the role of Suri in *Apaayavide Eccharike*. The film also features Radha Bhagavathi (Amruthadhare fame), Raghav Kodachadri, and Mithun Teerthahalli. Produced by VG Manjunath and Poornima M Gowda under Yashaswini Creations, the film has music and cinematography handled by Sunaad Gowtham.

Apaayavide Eccharike explores the essence of the five elements—earth, air, water, fire, and space—each embodied by a distinct character. Set against the backdrop of dense, eerie forests, the teaser has captivated audiences with its suspenseful visuals, promising a gripping cinematic experience.

Abhijith Thirthahalli